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Ex-Office of Aging director Mondala pleads guilty. » PAGE 6

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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75¢

ON TINIAN HISTORICAL SITES

Report: Military should avoid live-fire training

By DENNIS B. CHAN
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REPORTER

The Department of the Navy has seemingly ignored its own studies in its latest plans to build large-scale firing ranges on Tinian, the National Park Service said in a breakdown of the military's live-fire training project on Tinian this month.

The latest military plans appear to backtrack and conflict on earlier approved historical protection and mitigation zones that the Navy set forth in a smaller scale project some five years ago, according to the 88-page report, which was tasked by the Advisory Council on Historical Preservation last October after they saw that the latest military studies left many "unresolved issues."

See MILITARY on Page 4

TDHC to pay more than $1.7M in settlement case to employees

By FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON
frauleine_villanueva@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A settlement of more than $1.3 million in unpaid wages to Tinian Dynasty Hotel and Casino's employees—plus 25 percent of the liquidated damages—was reached after the CNMI Department of Labor on Tinian heard two case hearings this month.

» 531 employees unpaid from August 2015 to January 2016

This comes after almost five months of Hong Kong Entertainment (Overseas) Investment, Ltd.'s non-payment of wages to its 531 employees, both current and former.

HKE is the owner of Tinian Dynasty.

According to the stipulated order and consent judgment released by the Administrative Hearing Office, Tinian Dynasty admitted to its violation of obligation to pay wages.

"Respondent HKE admits that it failed to pay wages earned by more than 500 of its current and former employees, from August 2015 through January 2016 (except for the period from Dec. 12-31, 2015)," the order said.

It added that HKE has

See TDHC on Page 4

Search for Brown Tree Snake enters 2nd phase

FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON

Local and off-island experts on the Brown Tree Snake are on the second phase of their search in Dandan. In this photo from the first phase of the search in January, USGS rapid response team coordinator Adam Knox shows one of the traps that they've set up for the snake.

By FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON
frauleine_villanueva@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A second phase of the search for the sighted Brown Tree Snake on Saipan has commenced and will be done until March.

According to wildlife information officer Pete Perez, the second phase started last Monday and will last until March 13.

"We're starting over again," Perez said, adding that they will be searching the same area and the same transects in the village of Dandan.

In January, the team was able to cover 398 kilometers in their nightly intensive searches.

This week, 22 people from Hawaii, Guam, and Colorado arrived and a couple more will be coming in, according to Perez.

This Rapid Response Team is composed of experts from U.S. Geological Survey, U.S. Fish and Wildlife, CNMI Department of Lands, and Natural Resources and the Division of Fish and Wildlife.

Perez said 12 to 14 individuals go out every night, but so far, they found

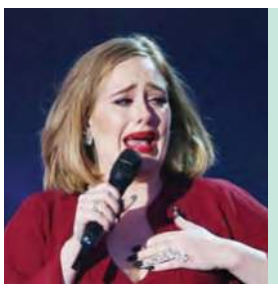
See SNAKE on Page 4

INSIDE

LOCAL

Joeten Motors Co. held a "soft opening" for two of its showrooms yesterday.

» PAGE 7



LIFE & STYLE

A tearful Adele was crowned queen of the British music scene with four prizes and a soulful performance at the Brit Awards on Wednesday.

» PAGE 24

4 DAYS

CDMA SHUTDOWN
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Local

FOR MISCONDUCT IN PUBLIC OFFICE:

Former Tinian Finance resident director gets 4-day prison term

Former Tinian Department of Finance resident director Edward Dela Cruz Shai has pleaded guilty to misconduct in public office and was slapped with a four-day prison term over his submission of false travel documents in order to cash per diem checks for his personal use.

Superior Court Presiding Judge Robert C. Naraja accepted Shai's guilty plea and the plea agreement.

Naraja sentenced the defendant to one-year imprisonment, all suspended except for four days.

Shai was given credit for four days of time served. It means that he will no longer serve more prison time.

Shai was placed on supervised probation for one year, ordered to pay a $100 probation fee and $25 in court assessment fee.

A review hearing will be on May 13, 2016.

The Office of the Public Auditor charged the defendant with one count of theft by deception and one count of misconduct in public office.

For pleading guilty to misconduct in public office, assistant attorney general Shannon Foley moved to dismiss the remaining charge. The court granted the motion.

According to the factual basis of the plea deal, Shai failed to properly and fully account for his official travel on or between May 30, 2011, and March 27, 2014, on Saipan and/or Tinian.

In so doing, Shai obtained government property by creating or reinforcing a false impression as to the value of travel compensation he was owed by the government.

Shai performed this illegal conduct while he was a public official, or as Tinian Finance resident director.

Attorney Joaquin Torres served as counsel for Shai.

Then-OPA investigator Juanette F. David-Atalig stated in her report that Shai submitted a total of 47 travel authorizations from 2011 to 2014.

Almost all of these travel authorizations were to travel to Saipan, supposedly to meet with various government officials for department matters. OPA learned that the officials, however, denied they ever met with Shai.

In total, Shai allegedly misappropriated more than $10,000 over a period of several years. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

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AS PIO ABOLISHMENT TAKES EFFECT:

Ruszala: It was a privilege to serve the CNMI

By FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON
frauleine_villanueva@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Brad Ruszala will be officially separating with the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. on Monday after its board of directors abolished its public information office in January.

Ruszala, who has been with CUC less than a year but has played a vital role in the aftermath Typhoon Soudelor, thanked the public for the opportunity to serve them.

"I am and will forever be grateful to the people of the CNMI for the love and support they provided our team during the Typhoon Soudelor recovery efforts…It was indeed and honor and a privilege to serve our community as the public information officer for the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.," Ruszala said.

He added that the experience was one of the most rewarding experiences he's had in his 12 years as a communications professional in the Marianas.

"I never fully appreciated the power of communications until serving our people as CUC's public information officer. Knowing that my job made a difference in my community provided me with the fuel I needed to get through the most challenging times," Ruszala said.

Since serving as PIO last April, Ruszala said his greatest contribution to the corporation was to put a face on the "dedicated and hardworking team" of CUC.

"My goal was to put a face, or rather faces, to the corporation so the people of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota could better appreciate the efforts of the men and women who work around the clock during the most dangerous conditions," Ruszala said, "Having someone in the field to document their efforts showed our customers just how courageous and dedicated our employees are."

» Camacho to handle CUC public information responsibilities

Conflict of interest?

Ruszala declined to comment when asked if he saw the removal of his position as the board's intention to fire him.

However, an instance prior to Ruszala's hiring showed one of the board members' "deep personal bias against" him and "a potential conflict of interest in his handling of the matter."

This was shown in a memorandum dated Mar. 2, 2015, when Ruszala was just a candidate for the PIO position.

Then executive director Alan Fletcher wrote to the

See RUSZALA on Page 4

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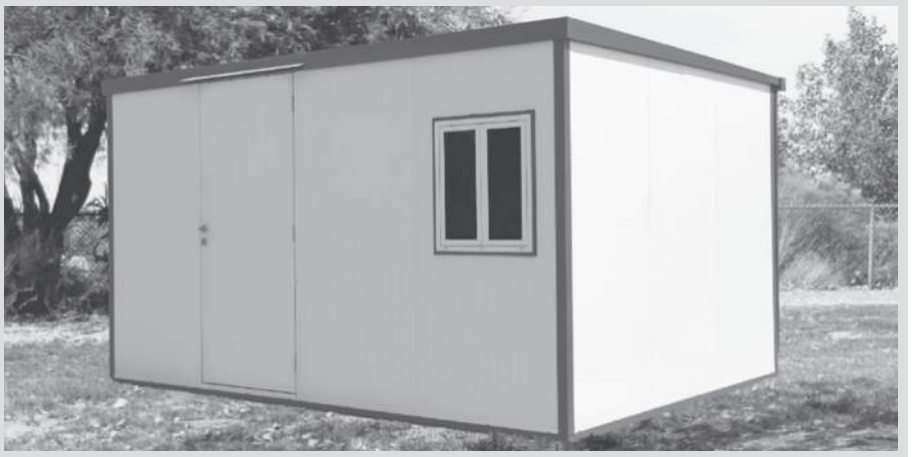

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FEB 2016 — MARCH – CDA 30TH ANNIVERSARY SCHEDULE OF EVENTS — APR 2016

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
28	29	1 KKMP Interview 7:00am	2	3	4
6	7 Open House	8 Stakeholders' Meeting - Tinian, NMC Campus	9	10 Stakeholders' Meeting - Saipan, Multi-Purpose Center	11
13	14 Open House	15	16 Stakeholders' Meeting - Rota NMC Campus	17	18 Business Plan Competition Presentation
20	21 Open House	22 Profit Mastery Workshop	23 Profit Mastery Workshop	24 HOLIDAY	25 HOLIDAY
27	28 Open House	29	30 Close - Logo Ranking	31 Raffle Draw CDA Office 3:00pm	1

After its establishment on September 18, 1985, and via CDA Board Resolution, on September 26, 1985, the CDA inherited all functions, assets, liabilities and personnel of EDLF.

As provided for by the CDA Act, CDA has two functions: the Development Corporation Division which generally serves the private sectors and the Development Banking Division that generally serves the public sectors. In December 2000, Public Law 12-32 entitled the Investment Incentive Act of 2000 was passed creating the Qualifying Certificate Program to be administered by CDA. The program provides tax relief in the fom of rebates and/or abatements for eligible investments.

Since its inception, CDA is governed by a seven (7) member Board of Directors, appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate of the Commonwealth Legislature. The Board hires an Executive Director who manages and oversees the day-to-day operations of the CDA. By Law, CDA is limited to 15 employees, excluding the Executive Director and the Comptroller positions.

MILITARY

From Page 1

The impacts in question involves the Ushi Point, North Field, Landing Beaches (North Field) National Historic Landmark District on Tinian, areas historically significant for their role in World War II and as an area with pre-contact Chamorro sites.

The Park Service has found that the Navy's "CNMI Joint Military Training" project "would significantly diminish the integrity and directly adversely affect" this area and "damage the landmark and would alter the landmark in ways not consistent with" federal standards for the treatment of historic properties.

"These impacts are rooted in the proposed design, location, and frequency of the training and related construction, the Park Service said, adding that the defining features of the landmark district would "be damaged and altered in ways that threaten the landmarks ability to convey its physically character, and therefore to be interpreted and understood by the public.

These historical features "are finite and irreplaceable," said the Park Service. "Should these historic resources be destroyed, the landscape would no longer exist or could no longer convey its significance."

The Park Service report is lucid in the description of the historical integrity of the Tinian landmark district, which falls under military leased land, and the report appears to put no faith in military proposals to "relocate" some of these sites.

The Tinian landmark area has been called a "playground" for historians.

"I am quite satisfied with the report," local historian Don Farrell told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday. "I am also confident that this will help both local and military planners understand the value of the Tinian North Field National Historic Landmark.

"It is one of a kind in the world," Farrell said.

Past promises

The Navy appears to have ignored its earlier assurances to enhance the historical district that were "stipulated" in a 2011 programmatic agreement between Guam, the CNMI, and the Department of Defense for earlier environmental impact studies for the "Guam Buildup" project.

The agreement states that: "DOD will coordinate with the NPS to update the Tinian NHL historic district, based on the results of" the Navy-sponsored historical studies.

"This has not been addressed," the Park Service said in its report,

The Navy has also sponsored a "cultural landscape reported" on Tinian that was completed in May 2010 to document the historical and cultural resources on the military leased area on Tinian.

That report, the Park Service notes, identifies zones for "resource protection" and military "activity mitigation," among others, to "strike a balance between" stewardship and military training.

The Park Service argues that given the geographic overlap between areas of potential effect in the earlier military approved project [the Marianas Islands Range Complex study] and the live-fire training ranges in question, the military's live-fire alternatives "should have been informed by the findings and recommendations" the earlier Navy cultural report and the resource protection "adopted" by the Navy in its earlier project.

"This clearly did not occur in a meaningful way," the Park Service said.

"Not only are the training constraint area[s]" and report recommendations "seemingly ignored by the CJMT proposed undertaking, some of the most significant impacts to historic and cultural resources would occur in training constraint areas, the Interpretation Zone, and/or would result from actions that go against" the Navy's own findings.

One example, the Park Service notes, is the high impact hazardous area that were given "limited training" designations in the earlier Navy training project.

"There are other examples in the proposed [live fire project where the cultural report findings] are seemingly ignored and the training constraint areas defined in the [earlier Navy project] non-existent," the Park Service said.

"It is unclear why this is so," the Park Service said, since the Navy is responsible for minimizing harm to the landmark district to the "maximum extent possible" and both the cultural report and training restraint areas were developed to protect the landmark district and other historical sites on Tinian.

Access

The Park Service also argues that the Navy has not adequately addressed the impact that intermittent training will have on the access to the historical landmark.

The military wants to use Tinian for 20 weeks of live-fire training and additional 22 weeks of non-live activity, which both involve munitions storage, danger zones, construction, and airspace and seaspace restrictions.

"While it is true there are National Historic Landmarks located on active military installations that are not readily accessible, the point here is irrelevant."

"What is being assessed here is a change from nearly unlimited access to restricted access…a profound effect on how the landmark is interpreted and experienced," the Park Service said, noting that visits and recreational and cultural activities would be curtailed.

"While the EIS identifies many of the significant impacts from restricted access that will affect the NHLD visitation, cultural practices and interpretation, none of the action alternatives is designed to avoid or minimize these adverse effects.

"This is true for most every aspect of the undertaking as it relates to cultural resources," the Park Service said.

'Layered historical landscape'

The report largely defends the "layered historical landscape" that held some of the most important events in World War II and spells out a total of nine recommendations the military should heed to preserve the integrity of the landmark district, which include, among others, proposals to "relocate or significantly reduce" a grenade and mortar ranges and its high hazard impact area that happens to overlap with the landmark district boundary.

The Park Service also asks that the military eliminate or modify the amphibious assault landing ramps on the historical Tinian World War II landing beaches, among other recommendations

A longer version of this story is available at www. saipantribune.com

TDHC

From Page 1

$1,321,637.09 in total wages owed as of this month.

Aside from the payment of the unpaid wages, the company was also ordered to pay its current and former employees 25 percent of the liquidated damages.

"The parties agree that HKE shall pay an additional payment to each employee or former employee of liquidated damages amounting of 25 percent of each workers owed wages," the order said.

"This amount is intended to compensate each worker for his or her hardship of having to work without receiving timely wages/salary for a period of months," it added.

Saipan Tribune learned that the damages liquidated would include the $1.3 million plus the amount of $343,328.39, which HKE has previously paid also as back wages to some of its employees.

This would bring the additional amount that HKE has to pay to $416,241.37.

In total, HKE will pay $1,737,878.46 to over 500 employees—390 of which are currently working—that they failed to pay.

The order set three payments: 1) HKE will pay the employees the amount assigned to them covering the first five payroll periods it failed to pay its hourly employees and the first two months of missing payments owed to salaried employees on Feb. 23; 2) HKE will pay the remaining owed wages on March 15; and 3) HKE will make an additional payment to each employee or former employee of liquidated damages.

HKE is required to provide written proofs of the payments today and on March 18.

Saipan Tribune learned that several employees already received the first payment from HKE.

DOL also sanctioned HKE $18,000 for its conduct but the amount is suspended for a period of one year and then extinguished of it does not commit any further violations until Feb. 17, 2017.

The order adds that if "HKE transfers assets to another business and is thereby left with insufficient financial reserves…the Department may take legal steps to void such transfer as fraudulent."

It added that the obligation to pay employees "is binding upon HKE's successors, heirs, and assigns."

CNMI Labor Secretary Edith DeLeon Guerrero said she is happy that a settlement was reached.

"I am happy that this matter has come to settle and most especially for the affected employees that have been working without their wages that they rightfully own and as a result the liquidated damages imposed are just as well deserving for the employees to compensate for the financial hardships that they had to live with for quite some time," DeLeon Guerrero said.

She added that her department will continue to ensure the protection of employees' rights.

"The protection of employee rights including timely payment of wages and a healthy and safe work environment is fundamental for any employer to recognize and be responsible for. The CNMI DOL is here and will continue to ensure that these protections no matter how small or large is diligently enforced benefitting a CNMI responsible business and employment environment," DeLeon Guerrero said.

SNAKE

From Page 1

nothing. Aside from traps lining the transects cameras have also been set up.

"If we see a snake, then we'll keep searching and we may expand the area," Perez said.

However, if no snake is found during the three-week search, they will go down to survey mode.

"If we don't find anything, then we'll go to another stage which is monitoring those same transects, we'll step it down a bit for the next year or so, couple years even," Perez said.

Perez said they also keep record of the food source in the area such as geckos, mice, rats, and birds.

"We already know there's a lot of food in the area. If we don't find the snake, and we start doing surveys and in the next surveys we start find out there's a lot less food, well maybe we don't see the snake but there's that sign that you were wondering about. Its indication that something's happening, all of a sudden, the food sources drop down," Perez said.

Perez reminded the public that if they see the snake, kill it immediately if they have the opportunity to do so, otherwise, don't scare the snake away and call 28-SNAKE for responders to take care of it.

"The most important thing to know is these snakes are not harmful to human beings, they don't have a poisonous bite, and they're really easy to kill," Perez said.

The DFW Facebook page features a video on how to kill a brown tree snake.

Perez also thanked the residents who have been patient in their nighttime searchers.

"Thank you to the people who are putting up with us. We really appreciate their help," Perez said.

RUSZALA

From Page 3

board "a matter regarding the reported conduct of CUC board director Eric San Nicolas in regards to a human resources matter."

"It was reported to me last week by Frankie Cepeda, Human Resources Manager, on Friday, February 20, 2015, Director San Nicolas made a threat against a job applicant for the Public Information Officer position," Fletcher said in the memo.

The memo further states that San Nicolas conversed with Cepeda in Chamorro saying that "if I (Director San Nicolas) had a gun I'd shoot him, I am serious I am not kidding" and that "he will not be hired."

When the board brought up the abolishment of the PIO position in Jan. 25, it was San Nicolas who seconded the motion to abolish made by director Albert Taitano.

With Ruszala's position being abolished after four yeses from chair Adelina Roberto, San Nicolas, and directors Taitano and Diego Songao, the responsibility to disseminate information to the public now rests with the office of the executive director, currently being headed by Gary Camacho in his acting capacity.

Added responsibility

Asked if he can handle the added responsibility, Camacho said, "First of all, the board made a decision, we have to move forward. There was a certain period of time when managers and along with my position, my current position, would take on that responsibility."

Camacho himself shared that they have a lot of work going on at CUC right now.

"We got a lot of work to do right now. We have maintenance for water, we're coming out of the Typhoon Soudelor recovery program and then we're doing a lot of the internal, financial submittals for FEMA for reimbursement and we're trying to prepare apprenticeship program, staff development programs," Camacho said.

"We have to make necessary adjustments, I think the staffing will," he added.

"Gary Camacho oversaw the complete rebuilding of our island's power transmission and distribution system from scratch in the aftermath of Typhoon Soudelor. He knows our utility, he knows our people, and he's a proven problem-solver. I learned a lot from him in the past year and I wish him the best," Ruszala said.

Ruszala only hopes that CUC would be transparent to giving information to the public.

"As a loyal, bill-paying CUC customer for the past 13 years, I hope our public corporation continues to embrace a transparent approach to the flow of information to our community. CUC is not a private business and the community is entitled to know what's happening with their utility," Ruszala said.

With his separation from CUC, Ruszala said his immediate plan would be to spend more time with his family.

Festival sparks interests from Chamorros in the mainland

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The annual Chamorro Cultural Festival has renewed the interest of Chamorros who grew up in the mainland to learn more about their culture and the Marianas. The CCF, now on its seventh year, will be held on March 19 at the California State University-San Marcos.

The Chamorro Hands in Education Links Unity is leading the celebration of the event, which is free and open to everyone.

CHE'LU board director David DLG Atalig said they reached out to the Marianas Visitors Authority, through the Governor's Office, which then gave out brochures and other information packets about the CNMI.

"Last year, then-Lt. Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and then-Senate President Victor B. Hocog joined us and brought lots of brochures from the MVA. The materials were distributed by the CNMI Sand Diego Club," said Atalig.

He added that they are encouraging locals in the CNMI to tell their relatives who are in the mainland, especially those in the West Coast, to inform them of the event and join them in the celebration. Last year more than 200 CNMI residents and their families attended the festivities.

"The CNMI San Diego Club will also be hosting its 3rd Annual Commonwealth/ Covenant Day event to celebrate our CNMI holiday. This event will be held on the same weekend of the festival on March 20," Atalig said.

CHE'LU is a San Diego-based non-profit organization focused on preserving and promoting the Pacific Island culture of the Chamorro people, the indigenous people of the Mariana Islands chain—including the CNMI and Guam. Che'lu in Chamorro means blood related.

The CCF is among the highly anticipated events in San Diego. The event celebrates the arts, culture, and customs of the people of the Mariana Islands.

CHE'LU was founded in 2005 in San Diego, which is home to the largest number of Chamorro people outside the Mariana Islands.

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Ex-Office of Aging director Mondala pleads guilty

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

FERDIE DE LA TORRE

Former Office of Aging director Rose DLG Mondala talks with her counsel, Loren Sutton, outside the courtroom before she entered a guilty plea on corruption charges yesterday afternoon in the Superior Court.

Former Office of Aging director Rose DLG Mondala entered a guilty plea yesterday in connection with the charges that she used the Aging Office's funds and materials for the needs of the Covenant Party during the 2009 elections and to build a fence at her house in Kagman.

Mondala, 71, signed a plea deal with the government and pleaded guilty to one count of forgery and one count of use of public supplies, time, and personnel for campaign activities.

Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo accepted Mondala's guilty plea and the plea agreement.

Govendo ordered that the sentencing be on March 30, 2016, at 1:30pm before Associate Judge David A. Wiseman.

Govendo said he will request the Office of the Adult Probation to expedite the presentence investigation report because Wiseman is leaving the bench.

As part of the plea agreement, assistant attorney general Matthew C. Baisley moved to dismiss the remaining 39 charges. Govendo granted the motion.

The 39 charges are 21 counts of forgery; six counts of misconduct in public office; seven counts of use of public supplies, time, and personnel for campaign activities; two counts of use of public position to obtain benefits for business or social acquaintances; one count of theft of services; one count of theft; and one count of use of office, staff or employees of a public office for personal benefit.

Attorney Loren Sutton is counsel for Mondala.

According to the factual basis of the plea agreement pertaining to forgery, on June 15, 2009, Mondala signed the signature of another person to an invoice submitted by a commercial vendor to a government agency for payment, without permission of the person, in order to hide the eventual disposition of the goods covered by the invoice.

With respect to the offense of use of public supplies, time, and personnel for campaign activities, on Sept. 5, 2009, Mondala, in her capacity as director of Aging, knowingly caused items purchased with government funds to be delivered to persons working on behalf of a political campaign.

Such items were to be used to promote the candidacy of a particular political candidate, according to the plea agreement.

Baisley noted in the plea agreement that Mondala has provided a signed "medical condition letter" from Dr. Vicente S. Aldan regarding her various serious medical problems.

Baisley said it appears that Mondala suffers from Type II diabetes mellitus, essential hypertension, hyperlipidemia, atrial fibrillation, DJD of bilateral knee, chronic bilateral knee pain, left lower extremity weakness, chronic left hip pain, persistent dizziness, anxiety disorder, and sequela of tuberculosis.

The case was originally filed by then-Office of the Public Auditor legal counsel George L. Hasselback as a special assistant attorney general.

Govendo, however, dismissed the case in September 2014 after ruling that the appointment of Hasselback as special assistant attorney general in the matter violates the separation of powers doctrine.

Govendo ruled that the attorney general violated the separation of powers by delegating general prosecutorial powers to members of an agency that has no such legislatively created authority.

Baisley refiled the case in October 2015.

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Military training at FDM, W-517 on March 2-3

The CNMI Emergency Operations Center, in conjunction with U.S. Naval Forces Marianas (N3) Guam, would like to inform the general public that the U.S. Military Unit will be conducting Military Exercises at Farallon De Mendinilla (FDM) and Area W-517 Irregular Poly-Gon South of Guam. The schedule dates and time are as followed:

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	UNITS & TRAINING
March 2-3	7am-4pm	FDM	COMDESRON FIFTEEN Military Training
March 2-3	12am-11:59pm	W – 517	COMDESRON FIFTEEN/COMSUBRON FIFTEEN Military Training

The general location of this activity will be at FDM on a 12-nautical mile radius on all quadrants. And at Area W-517 Irregular Poly-Gon South of Guam comprising southwest into International waters.

Due to the danger imposed by these activities, acting governor Francisco M. Borja is strongly advising the general public—especially fishermen, commercial pilots, and marine tour operators—to stay away from this area during the time and dates indicated.

The cooperation and understanding of the general public is greatly appreciated. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the CNMI Emergency Operations Center-Dispatch Center at telephone number (670) 237-8000, VHF MARINE CHNL16, and HF Single Side Band Radio on 5.205.0 or dial CNMI 211 for this advisory. ***(PR)***

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Joeten Motors now has more room to grow

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Joeten Motors Co. held a "soft opening" for two of its showrooms yesterday, which gives company officials and its sales teams more room to operate and further promote and sell the automobile brands they import to the CNMI for the local market.

JMC president Frances Demapan and general manager Matthew Deets led the inauguration that was also attended by Joeten Enterprises board of directors Annie Sablan, Clarence Tenorio Sr., Norman Tenorio, Patricia Palacios, Priscilla Tenorio, other company officials, employees, and other guests that became their business partners throughout the years.

The soft opening was for Joeten Motors' Kia showroom, which boasts of a spacious interior where interested customers can view the latest models of the Rio, Forte, Cadenza, Soul, and Sportage that are among the Korean car manufacturer's world bestsellers. The Nissan showroom, adjacent to Kia's, also opened yesterday.

"About a year and a half ago, we all gathered here for the ground breaking of this project. But eight months later, Typhoon Soudelor struck and devastated Saipan. It destroyed homes, businesses, and devastated our dealership," said Demapan in her opening remarks.

She added that teamwork brought Joeten Motors quickly back on its feet. "Our entire JMC team were so resilient during this difficult time. In spite of them having lost their homes, we got right back up."

"Everyone rolled up their sleeves to help clean and rebuild the dealership to its full operation. With a lot of help, I'm proud to say that Joeten Motors was back serving customers within a week. It's all about teamwork. God bless you guys."

Demapan said the showroom would be Kia's permanent modern home, far from the "sleepy lot toward the entrance of Joeten Superstore (the old Costco)" where the cars were first displayed and sold 16 years ago when they acquired the franchise of the Korean carmaker.

Deets, on the other hand, said that they expect a further increase in volume of Kia cars with the new showroom. In 2015 alone, JMC sold 191 Kia cars, which is a third in the CNMI automobile market.

"There are a variety of factors contributing to the rise in auto sales in the CNMI. In 2015, we saw growth in both the private and business sectors with new investments coming to the island. We have seen a spike in the months following Typhoon Soudelor but we have been experiencing steady growth for the past five years," said Deets.

"We project that we are going to exceed 200 units in 2016. Our proximity to Korea is one reason why we can easily get Kia cars. We already have the 2017 Sportage and we already sold two units," Deets added.

JON PEREZ

Joeten Motors Co. president Frances Demapan, second left, joins Joeten Enterprises board of directors, from left, Norman Tenorio, Annie Sablan, Clarence Tenorio Sr., and Priscilla Tenorio in yesterday's blessing of the "soft opening" of their Kia showroom.

Demapan said Joeten Motors' official grand opening will take place once the third phase of their dealership expansion finishes with the completion of Ford and Honda showrooms within this year. "Just around the corner, we will be completely rebuilding our Ford and Honda showrooms in order to make room for another outstanding and modern showroom to better serve our customers."

Diocese of Chalan Kanoa Apostolic administrator Rev. Fr. Ryan Jimenez blessed the showrooms as company executives believe it would lead to the success of the business and protection of their employees and customers.

Deposition of man allegedly diagnosed with Alzheimer's suspended

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho yesterday granted a motion that seeks to suspend or withhold taking depositions of a woman and her father, Byung Deuk Lee, who is a 73-year-old Korean businessman allegedly diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease and kept away from the rest of his family.

In granting Lee's motion to stay discovery, Camacho said he was persuaded in large part by Lee's point regarding how non-experts and family members deposing Lee help on the issue of competency.

Deposition refers to taking testimony of a witness outside of court.

Camacho also ordered plaintiffs Sang Hun Lee and Koom Nye Kim to file in writing their oral motion to conduct an independent medical examination on Lee.

Sang Hun Lee is the son of Kim and Byung Deuk Lee.

The mother and son are suing Ji Sook Lee, who allegedly removed Lee from a hospital in South Korea, where he was diagnosed with Alzheimer's, kept him away from his family, then traveled to Saipan to control all of his businesses and property.

Ji Sook Lee is the half-sister of Sang Hun Lee and Young Shin Lee. She is daughter of Byung Deuk Lee.

Attorney Robert T. Torres, counsel for Lee, said his client is a Korean *man'amko* (senior citizen) and respected member of the Korean business community having lived here since the 1980s.

Torres said while he is in his senior years and has mild cognitive impairment, Lee is fine and lucid.

Torres said Lee continues to exercise his freedom to associate as he pleases and will continue to assert his rights in this matter.

Last Feb. 8, Lee was served with the summons, petition for guardianship, and complaint filed by plaintiffs Sang Hun Lee and Kim.

The following day, the counsel for plaintiffs Sang Hun Lee and Kim sent a notice to Torres for the depositions of Lee and his daughter, Ji Sook Lee.

Torres objected to the notice and subsequently filed a motion to stay discovery or for a temporary protective order when negotiation with plaintiffs' counsel failed.

In Lee's motion, Torres said his client is not requesting extraordinary relief in withholding discovery altogether as he is merely requesting that the initiation of discovery be stayed until after the pleadings have closed.

At yesterday's hearing, Torres argued that the deposition was premature pending their responsive pleading and wonder how the proposed guardians, plaintiffs, can depose the person they are seeking to protect whom they say is incompetent.

In plaintiffs' opposition, attorneys David G. Banes and Claire Smith argued that they need to depose Lee on the issue of his competency as well as matters relating to the company or businesses.

Banes noted that three medical institutions—two in Korea and one on Saipan—determined that Lee is not competent because he has Alzheimer's and other cognitive and memory impairments.

"What are they hiding?" Banes kept on asking the question.

Torres said they provided a medical report that's contrary to plaintiffs' reports.

Torres said the plaintiffs have the burden in showing that Lee is not competent.

"It serves nothing than to harass Mr. Lee," said Torres, referring to deposition.

Torres said the court should not allow the abuse of discovery process.

Smith said what they are trying to do is gather information so they can present to the court and get this thing resolved.

Banes said why they can't depose even Ji Sook Lee when there is no allegation that she is not competent.

Banes added that this is a family matter.

"Let's solve the family situation. This is tearing a family apart," Banes said.

Torres said the plaintiffs should file a formal motion and do the right way pursuant to the rules.

US Probation asks court to discharge disbarred lawyer from supervised release

The U.S. Probation Office yesterday asked the U.S. District Court for the NMI to discharge disbarred lawyer Joseph A. Arriola from supervised release.

U.S. Probation Officer Gregory F. Arriola informed the court that Joseph Arriola has complied with the conditions of supervised release that the court imposed.

According to the probation officer, Joseph Arriola's supervised release expired on Aug. 30, 2015.

The probation officer recommended the court that the proceedings in the case be terminated.

In October 2010, Joseph Arriola started to serve his 58-month prison term for his conviction of two counts of wire fraud. He was required to pay $625,775 in restitution jointly with co-defendant, Luis K. Pelisamen.

Pelisamen was sentenced to five years in prison. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

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Interested applicants may send their applications to hr_Int@tanholdings.com To be considered, applications must be submitted not later than March 11th, 2016. Applications for Employment are available at the Human Resources Department located at the 2nd floor of the JP Center Building along Beach Road or at the Century Tours office at Kanoa Resort. Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

From left, Ray Tentia, Marianas Printing supervisor; Luis T. Camacho, Marianas Printing president; Tyrell Pauling, Hyatt Regency Saipan executive director of food and beverage; Rosebeth Gregorio, Marianas Printing account executive; Delia Marfil, Marianas Printing accountant; Bernard Lambat, Marianas Printing cameraman; Rudy Armenta, Marianas Printing computer graphic designer; Edison Duron, Marianas Printing fibreglass laminator; Ricky Cavinta, Marianas Printing press operator; Arthur Miranda, Marianas Printing general maintenance; Arnold Ondra, Marianas Printing press operator; Rosalyn Quintanilla, Hyatt Regency executive director of rooms; and Felix Condino, Marianas Printing press operator, pose for a group photo.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Marianas Printing is Platinum Sponsor for Charity Golf Classic

Marianas Printing president Luis Camacho presented Hyatt Regency Saipan with a generous in-kind sponsorship for the 20th Annual Charity Golf Classic last Feb. 16.

In collaboration with Hyatt Regency Marketing Communications manager Maria Valentina Haberman, Marianas Printing will print the colored tournament brochure featuring all event sponsors, partners, and prizes.

As a special gift to the event, Marianas Printing will also print the special invitation to the 20th Annual Charity Golf Classic awards banquet dinner that evening. All golfers will receive the tournament brochure and the special invitation on the day of the event.

"Marianas Printing is a locally owned company. We have been here for many years and we are always happy to support our community. Thank you Hyatt Regency Saipan for the collaboration opportunity," said Marianas Printing account executive Rosebeth Gregorio.

Hyatt Regency general manager Nick K. Nishikawa extends his gratitude to Marianas Printing for their support not only with the hotel's printing needs, but also for their continued support with the 20th Annual Charity Golf Classic event.

"We cannot forget the smallest of detail that tie our event together. Marianas Printing is an event partner with a Platinum Sponsorship. ***(PR)***

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SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					2/12 Buffet Lunch $14 Dinner: Closed	2/13 Lunch: A La Carte Dinner: Closed
2/14 **Sunday Brunch $22** Dinner: Closed	2/15 Lunch: A La Carte Dinner: Closed	2/16 Lunch: A La Carte Dinner: A La Carte	2/17 Buffet Lunch $14 Dinner: A La Carte	2/18 Lunch: A La Carte Dinner: A La Carte	2/19 Buffet Lunch $14 Seafood & Sushi Night Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)	2/20 Lunch: A La Carte Seafood & Sushi Night Reg. $35 (Local: $25)
2/21 **Sunday Brunch $22** Dinner: A La Carte	2/22 Lunch: A La Carte Dinner: A La Carte	2/23 Lunch: A La Carte Dinner: A La Carte	2/24 Buffet Lunch: $14 Dinner: A La Carte	2/25 Lunch: A La Carte Dinner: A La Carte	2/26 Buffet Lunch $14 Seafood & Sushi Night Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)	2/27 Lunch: A La Carte Seafood & Sushi Night Reg. $35 (Local: $25)
2/28 **Sunday Brunch $22** Dinner: A La Carte	2/29 Lunch: A La Carte Dinner: A La Carte					

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Judge orders competency hearing for habitual offender

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona has granted the U.S. government's request to hold a hearing to determine whether habitual offender Gilbert Kaipat is competent to stand trial.

Kaipat is facing charges both in federal and local courts over the burglary at the house of Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo where he allegedly stole the judge's gun and ammunition.

Manglona set the hearing for March 8, 2016, on the U.S. government's motion for psychiatric or psychological evaluation to determine Kaipat's competency to stand trial.

Manglona on Tuesday granted the U.S. government's request to vacate the March 8, 2016, trial date due to concerns of defendant's mental health.

The judge said she will reset the trial date after a decision on the motion to determine defendant's competency is ruled upon.

After the hearing on Tuesday, Kaipat was remanded to the custody of the U.S. Marshal.

Attorney Colin Thompson, counsel for Kaipat, did not oppose the government's request.

Assistant U.S. attorney Russell H. Lorfing, counsel for the government, also stated that Kaipat's real name based on his birth certificate is "Cling Philip Kaipat" and that he will file a superseding indictment to correct the name.

Court documents use the names "Philip Kaipat" and "Cling Kaipat."

Lorfing requested the court to commit Kaipat to the custody of the Office of the Attorney General for placement in a facility in order to be evaluated by a psychiatrist or psychologist who will determine whether he is presently suffering from a mental disease or defect rendering him incompetent to stand trial.

Lorfing said there is evidence suggesting that the defendant may have mental issues. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

President Obama proposes additional efforts to combat Zika virus

WASHINGTON, D.C.— Congresswoman Madeleine Z. Bordallo yesterday issued the following statement regarding President Obama's additional efforts to combat the Zika virus. The Obama Administration submitted a $1.9-billion emergency supplemental appropriations request to respond to the Zika virus at home and abroad.

"The Administration's request would, among others, provide emergency assistance to States and territories to combat the virus. The President is proposing $225 million in CDC funding for grants and technical assistance to expand mosquito or vector control and other programs that would prevent the spread of Zika and similar diseases. He also proposes providing additional federal Medicaid funding to Guam and other U.S. territories for health services to pregnant women at risk of infection or diagnosed with Zika virus, for children with microcephaly, and for other health care costs. The request proposes $246 million for the territories to cover the costs of increasing the Federal Medical Assistance Percentage to 65 percent, which would not count towards Guam's current Medicaid allotments," she said.

Bordallo joined her colleagues on Feb. 9, 2016 in writing to President Obama to urge his administration to take additional steps to address outbreaks of the Zika virus in the U.S. and abroad. Read the letter to President Obama here.

"President Obama recognizes the serious threat the Zika virus poses to our public health, and his Administration is working prevent its spread and reduce risks to Americans. This matter is particularly pressing for the people of Guam as the first several cases of the Zika virus infection have been reported in the Marshall Islands. I support the President's proposal for an emergency supplemental appropriations request, which will provide significant resources to combat the Zika virus and prevent further spread within the United States and abroad. I am especially pleased that the President has requested additional funding to support programs in the territories, which are vulnerable to the virus. I strongly encourage my colleagues to vote to pass the President's request. I will continue to work with them to monitor the Zika virus and provide Congressional support to combat it." ***(PR)***

WSR GEOGRAPHIC BEE WINNER CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Eric Mahinay, a fifth grade student at William S. Reyes Elementary School, won the school competition of the National Geographic Bee. The school Bee is a competition where students answered questions on geography. Thousands of schools around the United States and in the five territories are participating in the 2016 Bee.

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DYS aims to strengthen NMI families

JON PEREZ

Participants of last Saturday's Parent Leadership Development Workshop pose with organizers of the event held at Chacha Oceanview Middle School. Forty parents from various public and private schools on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota were nominated for the Parent Leadership award.

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Division of Youth Services administrator Vivian Sablan said they would continue to involve the 2016 Parent Leadership nominees with their programs in their effort to strengthen the families in the CNMI.

DYS held a Parent Leadership Development Workshop last Saturday at Chacha Oceanview Middle School where 40 parents from various public and private schools in Saipan, Tinian, and Rota were nominated for the Parent Leadership award.

Sablan said the winners of the Parent Leadership award would join the other awardees from previous years to help them promote and continue DYS' programs in the community.

"We will continue to work with these parents to actively engage and empower other parents to join DYS' efforts in strengthening families in the CNMI," said Sablan.

"The program continues with regular Parents Anonymous, Inc. support group meetings weekly and parenting classes scheduled every month," she added.

The workshop highlighted the activities of the 2016 National Parent Leadership Month this February. Gov. Ralph DLG Torres signed a proclamation last Jan. 28 declaring February as National Parent Leadershhip Month.

"However, DYS intends to work towards providing mini workshops on other topic areas that are directly impacting our CNMI families," Sablan said.

Domestic and sexual abuse, teen dating violence, and other forms of cyber pornography; disaster preparedness; the Commonwealth Respite Service Program; child mental health care; and suicidal ideation and other forms of self-harm behavior are the topics discussed by various speakers.

Northern Marianas Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence executive director Maisie B. Tenorio, Jesse Ramon from the Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency, Ayuda Network, Inc. executive director Diane Camacho, Project Care coordinator Ana B. Ada of the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.'s Community Guidance Center, and psychologist and project manager Debra Brown Lee were the resource speakers.

Sablan said April would be proclaimed Child Abuse and Neglect Month where they would partner with NMC's Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence in promoting prevention and awareness as part of the month-long activities. April is also Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

"Along with this will be series of presentations to school students as well as school and agency presentations on mandated reporting. The month-long activities [of Sexual Assault Awareness Month] is a roadside waving at the Toyota intersection," Sablan said.

DYS will also prepare for the Summer Youth Empowerment Camp set between June and July.

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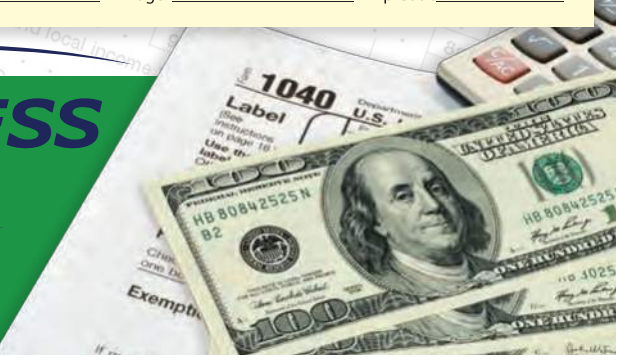

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Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
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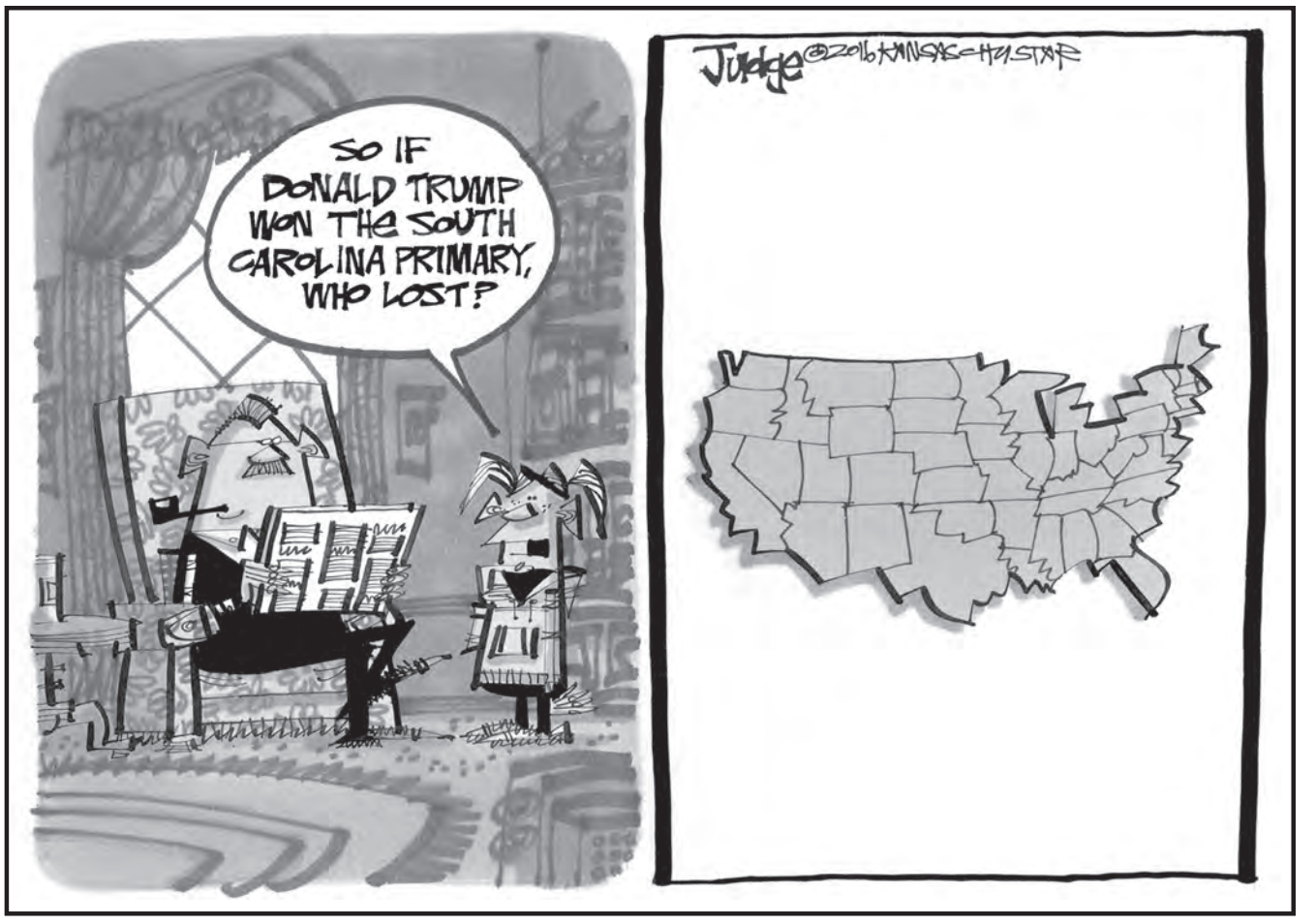


EDITORIAL

By DR. BEN CARSON
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Dr. Ben Carson is a 2016 Republican Presidential Candidate

Restoring equality and fairness to our fellow Americans in the territories and commonwealths

Many Americans do not appreciate the patriotism exhibited by our brothers and sisters in the territories of American Samoa, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI). Year after year, you send more of your sons and daughters per capita into the U.S. Armed Services than any of the 50 states. I stand in awe of this commitment and thank you for your service to our country. All of the Territories and Commonwealths, especially those in the Pacific, are vitally important to our national security, due to your positions as our first line of defense against potential encroachment by foreign powers.

We often lose sight of the fact that the U.S. government treats you as second-class citizens, despite your service and status as American citizens. Whether intentionally or accidentally, we have not stood by you as much as you have stood by us. The government has negotiated trade agreements without your input, enacted labor policies that are crushing your economies, and debated immigration protocol without considering how it would affect your communities, yet we as a nation continue to demand more of you.

I am saddened to hear that every day, more and more of you in the territories and commonwealths are leaving your families and homes because the healthcare and educational systems are inadequate. It is unfortunate that your economic opportunities continue to be decimated by policies imposed by politicians far away in Washington.

Medical care in the American territories and commonwealths has historically lagged far behind the continental states, and Obamacare has only made the situation worse. Good health is an essential part of a thriving society and economy, and citizens of the territories and commonwealths deserve policies that work. More must be done to fix the broken healthcare systems.

I pledge to you that if I am honored to earn your vote during the presidential primary process and am elected to

See RESTORING on Next Page

Porsche

By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime Vergara previously taught at SVES in the CNMI. A peripatetic pedagogue, he last taught in China but makes Honolulu, Shenyang, and Saipan home. He can be reached at pinoypanda2031@aol.com.

A Porsche sports car was parked in front of the JP Center in Garapan when I chanced to be there. My accountant neighbor was buying food from a mobile vendor and I told him that I liked his sports car. He did not miss a beat. He said that he drove it only on Fridays!

My leased proletarian fuel-saving hybrid Prius C was once sandwiched between a two-door black Lexus and a sporty Fairlady Z. Saipan is a car-driving island where public transport is not a purview of island development. The proposed Metro to include an elevated rail between Saipan and Tinian will not be an easy sell past dealerships of Japanese, European, Australian, American, and Korean cars, though an integrated resort developer threatens to build it (a promising Maglev, perhaps).

We now have days of plasticized mawr-mawr and pufferfish at hotel lobbies for tourists, staffed by Pinas linguists proficient in Hangul, English, Zhongwen, Nihonggo, Russian, and a spattering of German and French, in addition to their mother tongues (at least, one of the eight major languages in Pea Eye plus the Tagalog-based Filipino).

In China's northeast, I lived in Shenbei (not exactly vintage Garapan, CK, or Tanapag since the center was recently built in '85) but a neighbor drove a Lamborghini, another a Maserati, and a third, a Ferrari. I took the Metro that was only two blocks away. Local workers had deeper pockets than this lowly foreign teacher.

While in Guam in the '80s, a neighbor asked my daughter if her Dad was rich. "No, but he makes other people rich," she responded. She grew up in Human Development Projects (HDPs) where the volunteers monastically detached from wealth made others rich by facilitating the community's total development—economic, political, and cultural.

I was party to a group at a project in the New Territories Ship Kip Mei of HK. A Hakka fishing village, it saw economic potential of divesting their land, and did; the place now a skyline of high-rise apartments. I later drove a former fisherman's Mercedes Benz in San Francisco where he moved his family after the village as a group negotiated the sale of the communal property to a developer.

A colleague got a Rolex watch for facilitating the process, much to the chagrin of many in our volunteer group. We wanted the community to stay intact and develop into a model community of our "assistive" design, a pitfall of intruding parties to someone's native development direction.

The village did not hold the long-range picture the volunteers had on the future so they deliberated on the most immediate reward available. The colleague who received the watch continued to be faithful to his Religious Order vows even when offered a job of being the community's facilitator to negotiate favorable terms for the real estate sale.

It was not till later that I discovered the Hakka folks were Han from Beijing's northwest who had a yen for adventure, and quite nomadic in their travels, earning the name "Hakka" or "guest families."

Some prominent folks are Hakka. They include the famous father of Modern China Sun Zhongshan (aka Sun Yat-sen to the West) of the 1912 China Revolution, to the Soong sisters of Shanghai, one married to Sun Yat-sen, and the another, to Chiang Kai-shek, the latter fleeing to Taiwan after Mao forces took over in 1949. Deng Xiaoping of Sichuan is Hakka, so is Lee Kuan Yew of Singapore.

Hakka Binondo in Manila hosted the first Chinatown in the world since the Qing did not regard commerce highly. I led Community Forum Canada in Prairie towns of Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Alberta where all had Hakka restaurants. I did not order lunch from the menu but asked for leftovers the kitchen help had or were having; they made the food taste authentically Chinese rather than adopt to "Canadien" flavor.

Vancouver's Chinatown in 1976 at the UN Habitat conference made me understand why Filipinos drive fancy cars even if they could barely afford them. A Zhongguoren in my Saipan complex blared his music when he drove in with a fancy SUV boldly licensed "Badass." The tag was not meant to be pejorative. In fact, it was meant to be faddish, but in his case, he acted like one.

We tinkered in my youth under the hood or looked up the underside of a raised chassis, kept chrome fenders sparkly, and the top of the Chevy down. Now, teenagers alight to their folks' cars, eyes glued to the smart phone.

A car is worn proudly as one's persona extension, an item for the insecure to latch on to, an addiction. In Dong Bei where I live is Nippon Manchukuo's car capital, Changchun, Jilin, China's car center. You name the brand; they got it.

Cars. They are "us." Or, rather, we become "them." The Porsche is clearly on the upper echelon of car status, and in Germany's autobahn sans speed limits, or the flat plains of Inner Mongolia, one just steps on the gas. With the speed limits on tiny Saipan, Porsche is clearly more for display than for transport.

Oh, and I drive mine only on Fridays, too!

Beach chair science: the third gas

By ED STEPHENS
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Visit Ed Stephens Jr. at EdStephensJr.com. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the Saipan Tribune.

If you're looking for a great beach chair read, something enjoyable and informative, I can recommend "Neutrino Hunters: The Thrilling Chase for a Ghostly Particle to Unlock the Secrets of the Universe," by Ray Jayawardhana. I might write about the book some other time, but, for now, I'm going to pursue a tangent that the book inspired. That tangent is a gas called "argon."

Argon is all around you. You're breathing it right now. Argon, as a matter of fact, is the third most abundant gas in the atmosphere.

And yet it doesn't get much attention. That doesn't seem fair to poor old argon. After all, third place will get you a bronze medal in the Olympics. Third place will get you a winning "show" payoff in a horse race. You'd think, then, that argon deserves something more than obscurity for its efforts.

But it's not total obscurity I guess. I have seen the name a few times. In some long-ago grade school science class I remember a single, curt line from a textbook stating that the earth's atmosphere in 78 percent nitrogen, 21 percent oxygen, and 0.93 percent argon. And then in school to learn how to drive airplanes we were taught the same thing, including, notably, that very precise-sounding zero-point-nine-three percent figure.

We hear about nitrogen and oxygen all the time, of course, but for me, argon was just a disembodied word, something I recognized on a test but that had no other associations.

As for the neutrino-hunting realm, argon is used in certain scientific instruments relating to the study of neutrinos. That's how it earned a mention in the "Neutrino Hunters" book, and that's why I decided to finally take a look at this argon thing.

Argon, as it turns out, is one of several "noble gasses," gasses that don't readily react with other elements. Since it's not inclined to react with other elements, argon's good behavior makes it useful in some welding applications, in some sorts of diving situations (where it supplants nitrogen), in lamps and lights (sometimes in combination with other noble gasses), and in various scientific and industrial applications that I'll never be able to understand.

Some other noble gasses, sort of siblings to argon, get more name recognition at the street level. Helium, for example, is well-known as the stuff they put in blimps and balloons. It's also very important for the cooling circuits in medical imaging equipment. The U.S., in fact, has a strategic helium reserve.

Another famous noble gas is neon, the stuff that's used in store signs.

Some other noble gasses probably aren't as famous, but we hear about them sometimes in industrial applications. These include xenon and krypton, which, like neon, are established players in the light business.

Another noble gas, radon, is radioactive, and is a health threat if it seeps from the earth into your house. That's a problem in some parts of the world, but I've never heard of it being a factor in Saipan.

In order to isolate them and bottle them up for use, argon, neon, and several other gasses are culled from the air by freezing the air into a liquid state, and then separating the gasses as the air warms up again.

Helium, incidentally, isn't gathered from the air. It's so light that it just floats away and the atmosphere can't retain it. Helium, however, is often co-located with natural gas deposits, so it's harvested as a byproduct of natural gas wells.

Nature's noble elements are listed in the far right-hand column of the periodic table of the elements. Take a look at the table, and you'll see them listed by their two-letter symbols, which, going from lightest to heaviest, are He (helium), Ne (neon), Ar (argon; yea, argon!), Kr (krypton), Xe (xenon), and Rn (radon).

Overall, then, my impression of argon is that it's a friendly and unassuming element. It's happy to just be argon, and it doesn't go looking for trouble. It doesn't mess with or corrode the other materials out there. It doesn't mess with those of us who are breathing it, either. And it helps scientists and inventors do, uh, scientific and inventive things.

That's not a bad tally in my book. So let's raise a toast to argon this weekend. For a third place finisher with a zero-point-nine-three percent score, I'd say that argon has held its own pretty well.

RESTORING

From Page 12

serve, I will restore equality and fairness to the citizens of the territories and commonwealths.

I will work to implement the following initiatives:

■ I will appoint a Territory and Commonwealth Advisory Committee (TCAC) consisting of representatives from American Samoa, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, U.S. Virgin Islands, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico;

■ The TCAC will be integrated into my Presidential Transition Team, and be tasked with performing a holistic review of all federal regulations affecting the Territories and Commonwealths;

■ Once sworn into office, I will appoint a Special Assistant to the President responsible for day-to-day interaction with the territories and commonwealths. This position would be the direct connection for the Office of Insular Affairs AND the citizens of the territories and commonwealths.

I am confident that the TCAC will develop a comprehensive plan outlining actions to be immediately taken through the Executive Branch, as well as a blueprint for legislation that my administration will actively pursue through Congress.

I would also work hand-in-hand with Gov. Ralph DeLeon Guerrero Torres and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Legislature as they strive to increase employment opportunities, identify ways to reduce the current cost of electricity, improve the health care system on island and provide a strong educational system for all ages. Additionally, I want to reassure the great people of the CNMI that in a Carson administration, I would work with you to ensure that meeting our national security needs also means being sensitive to your culture and heritage—we would strike a balance that benefits both your lands and your country.

There has been a long list of examples of Washington politicians passing laws and regulations with little thought as to how it affects the Territories and Commonwealths. It is imperative that you have a voice in all major policies advanced by Washington. I fully understand that decades of unfairness cannot be undone overnight, but I am confident that by working with our brothers and sisters in our Territories and Commonwealths, we can restore equality and revive the economies and spirit of these beautiful islands.

Hardship: Home foreclosures

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune *and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the* Saipan Tribune.

The ugly fangs of more than two decades of economic depression have sunken deep into family pocketbooks everywhere. Its destructive effects have forced many into a myriad of delinquencies literally struggling to endure the hard times.

Families face daily hardship juggling stagnant income with the same results on every trip. This and other familial hardship as imperial Capital Hill sashays in confusion or aloofness or both.

For the adversely affected families, it's a heightened anxiety of impending loss of the last family property and homelessness. What's the root cause of this mounting familial mess?

It's the depressed economy!

Recalled that the housing market condition is usually the strongest indicator of economic conditions anywhere. The NMI is no exception! It gives clear indication how the average family is doing in terms of their pocketbooks. When there's a parade of foreclosures and delinquencies you know the ugly offshoots of a depressed economy begins to show its face.

Aloofness: The apathy or disconnect from the Hill has turned skepticism and frustration into an unusual personal serenity—no longer miffed—of the obvious negligence in perpetuity. My fear is the next transition: helplessness to hopelessness. It still is about the economy, stupid!

The housing board recently noted the high delinquency rate in its various housing programs to the tune of $2.9 million. This confirms housing as the single vital economic indicator at home.

I know that many of the more than 600 folks fired in recent past from their political jobs for marching to a different piper are part of this group. Obviously, the instant loss of jobs sent these folks crash landing in hard times incapable of paying the first family home. Slowly, the road to foreclosure is the only path out.

The political system feeds upon corruption and helplessness hiring people without skills. The more responsible alternative would have been to funnel them through the Civil Service System where they could engage in skills acquisition. Win, lose or draw at least they have something marketable under their belt that ensures them meaningful employment.

Culprit: Foreclosures also raise questions about the conduct among banks or loaning institutions on the disposition of this issue. Were foreclosures enforced even when the homes are halfway paid? Were efforts taken to assist the person in his quest to make-up payment, e.g., find a job? Is foreclosure the only final answer? Was the human side to homeownership taken into full view for families experiencing financial hardship? Isn't homeownership the dream of every family?

There's no easy answer to this and other urgent familial hardship. That imperial Capital Hill is aloof or dazed or both aren't excuses to ignore the plight of adversely affected families that may be displaced altogether. Let's see how it addresses the mounting housing issue. Is there anything cooking in the kitchen to resolve this issue?

■■■

Policy that benefits all! When considering policy issues, it is important to know that the decision must benefit the majority of the people you represent. There are a lot of benefits searching for common ground and civility especially in bad times. To do otherwise is to perversely create a privileged class of haves versus have nots that dooms those that are clearly disadvantaged forcing them into poverty and hopelessness.

Mind you, the recent decision by senators to pad their wallets with $2,500 per month to cover additional expenses fostered a class unto itself. You only took care of your living expenses at the expense of the rest of us who had to deal with over 20 years of no salary increases. It's a policy decision that pushes the disadvantaged further down the abyss of poverty. Did you forget that your double negligence has resulted in home delinquencies, foreclosures and inability of families to meet obligations?

Deductibles: It's hard enough dealing with health deductible we all must pay when seeking medical help at CHC of some $1-$2,000 a year depending on family size. That it is too steep would simply translate into people postponing seeking medical help.

This in turn translates into a more sickly population because deductibles are too expensive against family income the latter stuck without any increase for more than two decades now. Am I making any sense to our men of wisdom on imperial Capital Hill? Who says healthcare cost is inexpensive?

Help for veterans: When two of our young men were killed in Iraq in recent past, the island came out in droves to greet them in appreciation for their gallantry and courage. We showed our solemn appreciation for their courage and ultimate sacrifice.

Veterans who made it out of war zones in Iraq, the Gulf and Afghanistan are home safely. But they also came back suffering from a psychological scar known as PTSD. It's a dangerous situation in the sense that throughout the week they engage in an abrupt imaginative battlefield. Even more dangerous is the unpredictability of their behavior with loved ones or themselves for that matter. They certainly need help!

Yes, most have sought help from local agencies and health professionals. But the services available for psychological treatment are scarce or inadequate. And so it's back to square one where they engage trying to figure out why a certain instant fear, a flashback of being back in battle. It's a tough cookie unless they face real experts on PTSD. What have we done to improve this service for those of our own that really need this help?

I know the scandals rendered veterans across the country that waited and waited until death for medical attention. Even the man appointed to the VA post resigned when more denials were discovered against veterans.

Between the NMI, Guam, and Hawaii people assigned to assist veterans must meet forthwith to bring this matter to D.C. Your comrades need help, now!

■■■

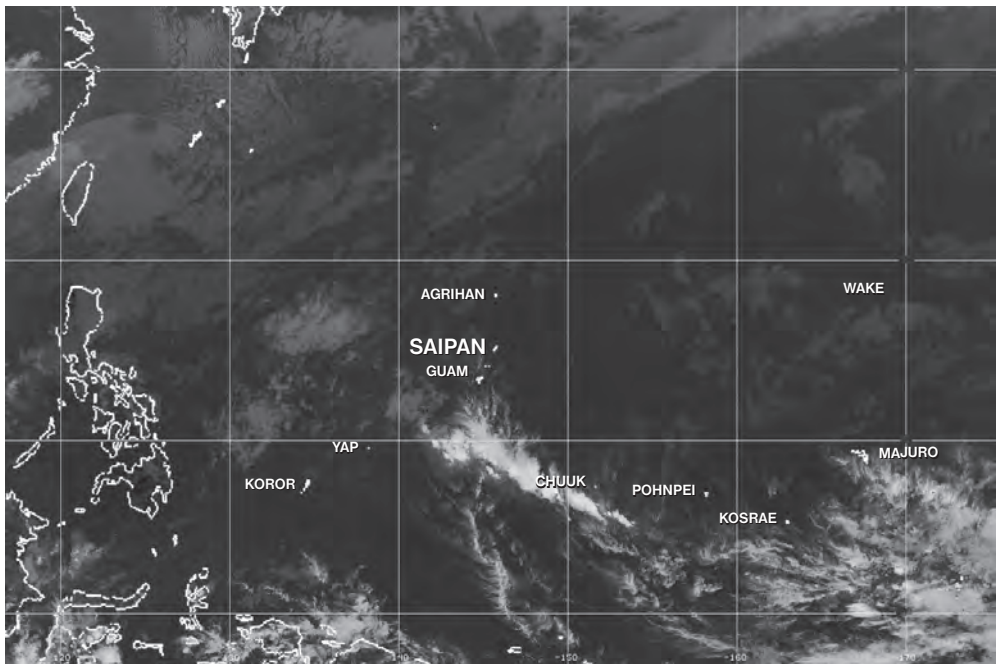
Why is our plan written on sand?

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
Mostly sunny with a slight chance of light showers. northeast winds 15 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with a slight chance of light showers. East winds 10 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲86° ▼74°	▲86° ▼75°	▲86° ▼75°	▲86° ▼75°	▲86° ▼75°

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 12:52 PM, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2016
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A frontal boundary stretches southwestward from 25N146E to beyond 130E at 17N. Cloudiness and scattered light showers are occurring northwest of the Marianas along and up to 200 miles northwest of this feature. A trade-wind disturbance is generating scattered showers west of the Marianas between 18N and 14N from 132E to 140E and northwest of Koror between 13N and 9N from 130E to 134E. Low-level convergence is triggering scattered showers and a few thunderstorms south of the Marianas to south of Pohnpei within 90 miles of a line from 12N140E to 7N150E to 5N157E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms associated with a near-equatorial trough are found south of Kosrae between 4N and the equator from 160E to 168E farther east. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are present over the southern Marshall Islands as well as Butaritari and Tarawa atolls between 7N and the equator from 168E to the date line.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

Micronesia

Guam And Rota	Showers	▲83	▼78
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲87	▼77
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲87	▼78
Chuuk	Partly Cloudy	▲85	▼79
Pohnpei	Partly Cloudy	▲86	▼79
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲83	▼80
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲85	▼80

Around the Globe

Auckland	Mostly Sunny	▲83	▼66
Beijing	Mostly Sunny	▲49	▼25
Hong Kong	Cloudy	▲61	▼55
Honolulu	Sunny	▲81	▼68
London	Mostly Cloudy	▲45	▼33
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲82	▼54
Manila	Partly Cloudy	▲87	▼73
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	▲77	▼59
Miami	Sunny	▲72	▼53
New York	Windy	▲52	▼33
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	▲50	▼36
Paris	Cloudy	▲45	▼31
Pusan	Partly Cloudy	▲53	▼39
Rome	Partly Cloudy	▲61	▼51
Salem	Mostly Sunny	▲65	▼43
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲72	▼52
Seoul	Sunny	▲44	▼27
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	▲50	▼34
Washington, DC	Windy	▲50	▼32

Tides

Saipan Harbor

3:53 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.3 Feet
9:59 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.9 Feet
4:24 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.6 Feet
9:59 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.7 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:37 AM	6:24 PM
Saturday	6:36 AM	6:24 PM
Sunday	6:35 AM	6:24 PM
Monday	6:35 AM	6:24 PM
Tuesday	6:34 AM	6:25 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	9:10 PM	8:39 AM
Saturday	9:57 PM	9:18 AM
Sunday	10:44 PM	9:57 AM
Monday	11:33 PM	10:38 AM
Tuesday		11:21 AM

Note: Blank spaces indicate that a rising or a setting did not occur during that 24-hour interval.

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- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF FEBRUARY 22, 2016

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA2924	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA2922	8:40am	9:30am	Daily
UA2921	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota
UA2920	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6
UA2928	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily
UA2926	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

UA2921	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

UA2921	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL297	4:20pm	7:10pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ626	2:10am	6:00am	1
OZ626	2:50am	6:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ628	3:50am	7:40am	Daily
7C3403	4:35am	8:30am	Daily
7C3401	4:30pm	8:25pm	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	1:30am	5:30am	1, 3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/701	2:10am	11:15am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:15am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA2924/191	4:15am	9:00am	3, 6 via GUM
UA2924/PR111	4:15am	9:20am	Daily via GUM
UA2922/183	8:40am	9:30pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA2922/183	8:40am	9:50pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA2922/193	8:40am	11:10pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR
UA2921/183	1:30pm	9:30pm	5 via Rota-GUM
UA2921/183	1:30pm	9:50pm	1, 4, 7 via Rota-GUM
UA2921/193	1:30pm	11:10pm	5 via Rota-GUM
UA2920/183	2:20pm	9:30pm	2 via GUM
UA2920/183	2:20pm	9:50pm	3, 6 via GUM
UA2920/193	2:20pm	11:10pm	2 via GUM-ROR
UA2928/183	6:05pm	9:30pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA2928/183	6:05pm	9:50pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA2928/193	6:05pm	11:10pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA2926/191	9:50pm	7:20am+1	1, 6 via GUM
UA2926/191	9:50pm	9:00am+1	3, 6 via GUM

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

OZ626/721	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
OZ628/721	3:50am	12:50am	Daily via ICN
UA2922/159	8:40am	10:35pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA2921/159	1:30pm	10:35pm	1, 5 via Rota-GUM
UA2920/159	2:20pm	10:35pm	3, 6 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA2923	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA2925	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA2921	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA2920	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA2927	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA2929	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

UA2920	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

UA2920	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:35am	3:10pm	Daily

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

7C3402	10:10am	3:30pm	Daily
OZ625	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7
OZ625	8:20pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
OZ627	9:30pm	2:50am+1	Daily
7C3404	10:10pm	3:30am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:00pm	1:50am+1	3, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	4:30pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6, 7

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA190/2927	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 6, 7 via GUM
UA190/2929	9:55am	9:20pm	2, 6, 7 via GUM
UA190/2927	10:00am	5:35pm	3 via GUM
UA190/2929	10:00am	9:20pm	3 via GUM
OZ702/625	12:30pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:30pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ702/627	12:30pm	2:50am+1	Daily via ICN
PR110/UA2925	10:05pm	8:05am+1	Daily via GUM
UA192/2925	10:20pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM-Rota
UA192/2920	10:20pm	1:50pm+1	2, 5 via GUM-Rota
UA192/2927	10:20pm	5:35pm+1	2, 5 via GUM-Rota
UA192/2929	10:20pm	9:20pm+1	2, 5 via GUM-Rota
UA184/2925	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/2921	10:55pm	1:00pm+1	3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/2920	10:55pm	1:50pm+1	1 via GUM-Rota
UA184/2927	10:55pm	5:35pm+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/2929	10:55pm	9:20pm+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/2925	11:59pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM
UA184/2920	11:59pm	1:50pm+1	2, 5 via GUM-Rota
UA184/2927	11:59pm	5:35pm+1	2, 5 via GUM
UA184/2929	11:59pm	9:20pm+1	2, 5 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ724/627	2:20pm	2:50am+1	Daily via ICN
UA116/2925	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA116/2921	10:55pm	1:00pm+1	3, 6 via GUM
UA116/2920	10:55pm	1:50pm+1	1, 5 via GUM-Rota
UA116/2927	10:55pm	5:35pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA116/2929	10:55pm	9:20pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; 7C: Jeju AirETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
6:30AM	6:45AM	Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
12:30NN	12:45NN	Daily
1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
12:00NN	12:15NN	Daily
1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO ROTA

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:45AM	8:15AM	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:00PM	4:30PM	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

ROTA TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:45PM	5:15PM	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

Flying not-so-friendly skies: What are your air passenger rights and how do you enforce them?

Part 1: Cancellations and delays

CONSUMER CORNER
By TERESITA SABLAN
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Teresita Sablan serves as consumer counsel of the CNMI Office of the Attorney General.

The Airline Deregulation Act of 1978 did precisely what the title of the act states—deregulated the airlines—with an aim to allow the competitive market to naturally govern the quality of services, offering of flights, and fare prices.

The U.S. Department of Transportation, however, still has jurisdiction to regulate (but not without limit) the airlines to protect consumers.

This three-part series will discuss several passenger rights, beginning with cancellations and delays.

Airlines are not required to "guarantee" their schedules, but they cannot maintain unfair or deceptive flight schedules.

Unrealistic flight schedules are considered unfair and deceptive.

If a flight is chronically delayed—more than 30 minutes late or cancelled for 50 percent or more of the time in a given month—for four consecutive months, it is automatically considered unrealistic scheduling.

Additionally, airlines must provide passengers with notice of a change in flight status—that is, a cancellation, a delay of 30 minutes or more, and/or a flight diversion—within 30 minutes of becoming aware of a change in status.

The notice must be provided at the boarding gate (if a U.S. airport), on the airline's website, and via the airline's telephone reservation system.

Finally, airlines must submit detailed monthly reports to DOT regarding cancelled flights, comparisons of scheduled departures and actual departures, time differences between scheduled and actual departures, the reasons for delay and cancellations, and similar matters.

Airline carriers must also calculate their on-time-performance code (that is, the percentage of their flights that are on time).

Airlines must make this performance code available to consumers upon request and must link the code to flight schedules on their websites.

To avoid a delayed or cancelled flight, try to select flights earlier in the day—these flights are less likely to be set back by other flight delays and less likely to get cancelled if there are other delays.

Also, review the on time-performance codes for flights before selecting your flight.

If you've experienced a cancellation or delay and want to lodge a complaint, start at the source—with the airline.

The airlines are required to inform consumers how to submit a complaint on their website, e-ticket confirmations, and at their airline counter upon request.

The airlines must respond to consumer complaints within 60 days of receiving the request.

In addition to lodging a complaint with the airline, you should file a complaint with the Department of Transportation at https://www.transportation.gov/airconsumer/file-consumer-complaint.

DOT meets with the major airlines on a regular basis and may be able to address issues raised in complaints during these meetings.

Moreover, DOT tracks cancellations and delays, and can better enforce its regulations when it receives specific details about such things.

When lodging a complaint, be as detailed as possible and be sure to include flight numbers, times, and dates.

Finally, you can also submit a complaint to the Consumer Counsel: cnmiconsumercounsel@gmail.com.

Under the Airline Deregulation Act, the Commonwealth cannot regulate fares, services, and routes, but if your complaint touches on other matters the Commonwealth may have authority to address it.

- Please note that these rules apply to covered carriers as defined under the DOT regulations and to routes that meet certain requirements.
- The rules may not apply to all airlines or all flights.
- The information contained in this article is for general informational purposes only and is not intended to provide legal advice to any individual or entity. This information is not intended to create, and the reading of it does not constitute, an attorney-client relationship.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Saipan Shipping Company, Inc
would like to inform the general public that
Byron "Bhong" Banzuela
is no longer employed or connected with the company.

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT
INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB16-MEDICAID-061

SUBMISSION/OPENING DATE: MARCH 31, 2016 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

"PURCHASE OF A SERVER (RACK MOUNTED) TO INCLUDE ONE (1) BATTERY BACK UP, ROUTER & SWITCH FOR THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR, MEDICAID AGENCY"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENCION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND PROPOSALS, IN WHOLE OR IN PART, AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

/S/ HELEN C. SABLAN
MEDICAID DIRECTOR

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT
INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB16-DPS/BMV-066 (A-C)

SUBMISSION/OPENING DATE: MARCH 22, 2016 TIME: 10:30 A.M.

"PURCHASE OF FOUR (4) EXECUTIVE TABLES & DRAWERS, THIRTY-TWO (32) STACKABLE CHAIRS AND SIXTEEN (16) FOLDING TABLES FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY – BUREAU OF MOTOR VEHICLE"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENCION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND PROPOSALS, IN WHOLE OR IN PART, AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

/S/ ROBERT A. GUERRERO
COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC SAFETY

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp • Website: http://www.nmhcgov.net

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY
IN-HOUSE ANNOUNCEMENT

Opening Date: February 1, 2016
Closing Date: March 1, 2016

Position: **Accountant I**
Salary: **PL 30/01 – $22,576.96 to PL 30/06 - $30,246.740 P/A**
(Starting salary will be determined by the qualifications of the appointee.)

Job Location: NMHC Central Office, Garapan, Saipan, MP 96950

Detailed job description, qualification requirements and other information may be picked up, together with NMHC's employment application form, during regular working hours at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan during regular working hours, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except CNMI and austerity holidays.

All applicants must complete and submit the NMHC Employment Application Form together with required documents that are listed in the Employment Application Package. Failure to provide the required documents will result in automatic disqualification. NMHC and all its properties are drug-free zones; therefore, selected applicant will be subject to pre-employment drug screening.

Applicants are requested to submit their original application and supporting documents to the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, no later than 4:30 p.m., Tuesday, March 1, 2016, **OR MAILED AND POSTMARKED** no later than March 1, 2016, to the Corporate Director, Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, P. O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950.

It is the policy of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) that the merit system will be applied and administered according to the principle of equal opportunity for all citizens and nationals as defined by its personnel regulations and the Northern Marianas Commonwealth Constitution regardless of age, race, sex, religion, political affiliation or belief, marital status, disability or place of origin.

For inquiries, please contact Ms. Jocelyn C. Seman, Office Manager at (670) 234-9447/7689 or by email to officemanager@nmhcgov.net. NMHC is a fair housing agency and an equal opportunity provider, lender and employer.

/s/ **JESSE S. PALACIOS**
Corporate Director

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
3rd Floor, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building
P.O. Box 501220 CK • Saipan, MP 96950-1220
Telephone: (670) 664-4282 • Facsimile: (670) 235-5131

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to the Open Government Act (1 CMC §9901 et seq), the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation Board of Directors hereby informs the general public that the Board will hold a special board meeting on **Saturday, February 27, 2016, at 10:00 a.m.** The meeting will be held at the CUC Conference Room, Room 17, 3rd Floor, Joeten Dandan Building. The following agenda will be considered and public attendance is welcome.

AGENDA*

I. **Preliminary Matters**
   A. Call to Order
   B. Roll Call
   C. Reading of Notice Calling Special Meeting
   D. Adoption of Agenda
   E. Correspondence
II. **Public Comments ****
III. **Management Report**
   1. Executive Director's Report
   2. Chief Financial Officer's Report
   3. Legal Counsel Report
IV. **Rate Issues – Economists.com**
V. **Executive Session*****
   1. Integrated Resource Plan by Leidos
   2. Consultation with Legal Counsel on Personnel and Operations Matters
VI. **Board Reports/Miscellaneous Administrative Matters/New Business**
VII. **Adjournment**

* Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9912, the Agenda may be modified during the meeting.
** Public comments are limited to 30 minutes and each remark is limited to three minutes. Everyone is welcome to submit written comments.
*** Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9912, the Board of Directors may vote to meet in executive session at any time.

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

High occupancy, not unpaid balances to blame for referral patient being turned away

It has come to our attention that certain issues have arisen in light of a Medical referral patient from Rota who was denied hotel accommodations because of the assumption that the Rota municipal government has not paid balances owed for hotel accommodations and transportation of the island's medical referral patients on Saipan.

I believe that assumptions such as this must be clarified and settled so that the public has an unblemished understanding of the situation that occurred in light of the Medical referral patient's misunderstanding.

Let the record reflect that the Rota Health Center/Rota Inter-Island Medical Referral clearly informed the patient that neither government housing nor hotel accommodation was available due to high occupancy level which is a result from the increase of medical referrals patients from Rota to Saipan. In the past, there were instances that such situations have occurred but still patients insists that they be sent to Saipan as accommodations are being arranged for the patients to reside with family members. This recent situation is precisely that same situation in which the patient informed the Rota Health Center/Rota Inter-Island Medical Referral that he will take full responsibility of his housing accommodations as he has made contact with family members residing on Saipan.

However, it was learned that the patient is currently been provided with a hotel accommodation.

Second, contrary to the assumptions of the balances owed to hotels that provide hotel accommodations for our Rota referral patients: Rota Local Law No. 19-08 (House Local Bill No. 19-44, D1) appropriated $2 million specifically allotted to the First Senatorial District under Public Law No. 18-56. Out of the $2 million, $100,000 was allotted for the operations of the Office of the Mayor of Rota. For the record, the Mayor's Communication 19-26 and Mayor's Communication 19-127 reflected funding was appropriated for several vendors including the hotels that are owed and that payments have already been processed.

In light of the reported allegations, facts will prove that: 1) the patient was fully aware on the unavailability of hotel accommodations but still insisted that he be sent to Saipan as he had made prior arrangements for his accommodations with family members and 2) balances owed to service providers for medical referral patients from Rota was and is being settled by the Rota Municipal government.

The Rota Legislative Delegation, along with the Honorable Mayor of Rota, Rota Resident Director Rota Health Center, and Rota Inter-Island Medical Referral office, is cognizant of the obstacles the many medical referral patients face. We empathize with the needs of our patients that is why we as a cohesive unit strive to provide valuable accommodations and services that would ease their plight to recovery. It is only reasonable that we explain and clarify the unfortunate situation that arose.

See HIGH on Page 18

ESCAPE
THE FAST FOOD HABIT...
EAT OUT
HEALTHILY
Eat out elsewhere and discover new foods for you and the kids. It could be a great way to cut down the amount of salt in their diet and eat more healthily.
BIBA
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DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH
HEALTH AND WELL BEING
COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORP.
Established October 2011
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANAS

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

BOARD OF PAROLE

P.O. BOX 502641, Saipan, MP 96950-2641
Tel: Nos.: (670) 664-3300 – 3302 • FAX: (670) 664-3310
E-mail: govbop@pticom.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

Parole Hearing Agenda

Governor Ralph DLG Torres and Lt. Governor Victor Borja Hocog, through the Board of Parole Office, and pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section II of the "Open Government Act of 1992". Notice is hereby given that a **Parole Hearing** is scheduled for **March 1-2, 2016, (Tuesday and Wednesday), at 8:00 A.M. and if need be continued on March 3, 2016, (Thursday) at 8:00 A.M., at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center, Beach Road Susupe, Saipan.** The following items are included in the agenda:

I. Preliminary Matters
1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Presence of quorum

II. Consent Items
1. Review / Adoption of Agenda

III. Parole Application	**BOP No.:**	**Cr. Cs No.:**
1. Nelson A. Ramon	15-004	14-0085
2. Gorjonny Vincent V. Camacho	15-005	14-0057D
3. Conrad B. Iba	15-006	14-0065B
4. Jose T. Blas	15-007	14-0085
5. Mark S. Benavente	15-008	15-00/789
6. Theodore O. Pehnos	15-009	14-0087D
7. Jose B. Manglona Jr.	15-010	15-0073E/06-0151
8. Daimeionne Kaleo Greer	16-001	14-0128
IV. Re-Parole Application		
1. John I. Carreon	16-RA-001	12-0030T

V. Miscellaneous
1. Other Matters
2. Discuss new Regulations and Revocation Process

VI. Adjournment

If you have any questions, please call the Parole Office at Telephone number 664-3300 or 664-3302.

/s/ **Ramon B. Camacho**
Chairman, Board of Parole

Executive Meeting Agenda

Governor Ralph DLG. Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, though the Board of Parole Office, and pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section II of the "Open Government Act of 1992". Notice is hereby given that an Executive Meeting is scheduled for **March 3, 2016, (Thursday) beginning at 9:00 A.M., at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center, Beach Road, Susupe, Saipan.** The following items are included in the agenda:

I. Preliminary Matters
1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Presence of Quorum

II. Consent Items
1. Review/Adoption of Agenda
2. Adoption of Executive Meeting Minutes – May, 2015

III. Miscellaneous
New Business
1. New Employee for Administrative Position
2. Office Updates
3. Parolee Status Updates

Old Business
1. Board Policy on the Conduct of Executive Meetings and Parole Hearings Board's
2. Drug Testing Policy
3. Other Matters

IV. Adjournment

If you have any questions, please call the Parole Office at Telephone number 664-3300 or 664-3302.

/s/ **Ramon B. Camacho**
Chaiman, Board of Parole

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Procurement, Delivery, Installation and Commissioning of Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) Compressor with Built-In Refilling Station for the Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting Departments at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, Tinian International Airport and the Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport

Project No. CPA-SA-005-16

The Commonwealth Ports Authority is soliciting sealed proposals from qualified companies to procure, deliver, install and commission a brand new self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) compressor with built-in refilling stations for the Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting (ARFF) Departments at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, the Tinian International Airport and the Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport. Proposals are to include procurement, delivery and installation of stations to each respective airport.

The compressor and refilling equipment shall include the quantities and details and product specifications as provided within the scope of work. The scope and product data are available for pick up at the CPA Administration Office.

The proposals shall include the following:

1. Letter of interest;
2. Team Members;
3. Related past project performance (include commendations or certifications, if available);
4. Available resources to accomplish the project;
5. Cost proposal (in itemized SOW format); and
6. Valid Business License.

The contract period for procurement and installation will be based on the contractor's proposal. However, liquidated damages of $500.00 shall be assessed the contractor for each calendar day the completion of the project is delayed beyond the acceptance date without approved excuse by CPA.

All proposals are to be submitted in a sealed envelope marked with the respective RFP description to the office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, 2nd floor of the Arrival Building, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, no later than **4:30 p.m., MONDAY, MARCH 21 , 2016.**

Each proposal shall be accompanied by a bid bond issued by a CPA approved surety company, a certified check, or a cashier's check in the amount no less than ten percent (10%) of the total proposal amount. Checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

All responses to this RFP shall take into account any and all taxes that will be charged to the proposer awarded the contract for the project, including excise tax.

The procurement is being financed by funds from the Commonwealth Ports Authority. The contract award, if it is to be made, will be made within sixty (60) calendar days from the receipt of proposals. CPA reserves the right to hold the contract award for ninety (90) calendar days from the date of receipt of proposals.

All This procurement is made in accordance with the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations Section 40-50-225. Proposals will be evaluated and scored based on the following criteria:

1.	Total cost for equipment procurement, delivery and programming	35%
2.	Experience of the firm on similar or related systems	35%
3.	Qualifications of the principal(s) and assigned staff	20%
4.	Timeframe for delivery, programming and commissioning	10%

Questions and inquiries regarding this Request for Proposals shall be submitted in writing and may be delivered to the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, at the Saipan International Airport, faxed to (670) 234-5962 or emailed to Assistant ARFF Chief William Camacho at bcamacho@cpa.gov.mp.

CPA reserves the right to reject any or all proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Request for Proposals; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said proposals if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

All proposals shall become property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

/s/ JOSE R. LIFOIFOI
Board Chairman/Contracting Officer

Date: February 22, 2016

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

Procurement and Supply

SPECIAL NOTICE

General Contractors, Suppliers, and Interested Firms

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is inviting general contractors, suppliers, and interested firms to attend an informational conference pertaining to USEPA Grant Funded Water & Wastewater projects that CUC will procure in this fiscal year. Overall, these projects include construction work, repair work, and supply of goods and equipment on Rota, Saipan, and Tinian.

Proposed Projects for Fiscal Year 2016 (Saipan, Tinian & Rota):

- Renovation of Wastewater Lift Station SR1
- Rota Water System Improvement
- Renovation of Wastewater Lift Stations S6 & S10
- Upgraded Pump Controls for Wastewater Lift Station S3
- Tinian Water System Improvements
- Sewer Service Lines
- Improvements to the Kagman Water System
- Water Main Replacement in Capitol Hill
- Water Main Replacement in As Lito
- Replacement of the NMC Water Reservoir
- Water Main Replacement in Gualo Rai
- Repair of Stand by Generators
- Water Main Replacement-Herman's Bakery
- Water Main Replacement in Chalan Kiya
- Water Main Extension on Sailing Drive
- Design and Construction of Improvements to the Maui Well Shafts

Conference Information:

Place : CUC Conference Room
3rd Floor, Room 15, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building
Dandan, Saipan, MP 96950
Date : March 3, 2016
Time : 10:00 a.m. ChST
Contact : Manny B. Sablan, Purchasing Officer,
e-mail address: manny.sablan@cucgov.org
John Riegel, Senior Engineer, e-mail address: john.riegel@cucgov.org

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Officer

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-16-005

WATER MAIN EXTENSION PROJECT, SAILING DRIVE, DANDAN (W12-022D)

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Construction of Water Main Extension Project in Dandan, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The scope of work consists of the installation of approximately 940 LF of new 8-inch PVC water line, along with approximately 500 LF of new 2" PVC water line. It will also involve the reconnection of new and existing customers onto the new waterlines within the project area.

This project is funded by a grant from the United Sates of Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of the approval for project award from USEPA.

CUC requires the Project to be completed in **75 calendar days** from date of award of contract.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by a Site Visit is scheduled on **March 1, 2016 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"CUC-IFB-16-005, Water Main Extension Project, Sailing Drive, Dandan** to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on March 18, 2016,** at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

A *Bid Guarantee* of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. *A Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions or request for clarification regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on March 3, 2016** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer, via email – manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to John Riegel, CUC Water/Wastewater Chief Engineer – via email john.riegel@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

GARY CAMACHO
Acting Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Officer

TINIAN CASINO GAMING CONTROL COMMISSION

Municipality of Tinian and Aguiguan
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT

No.: 2016-02

It is the policy of the Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission that the personnel system shall be applied and administered according to the principle of equal opportunity for all citizens and nationals as defined by the Northern Marianas Commonwealth Constitution and Federal Civil Rights Laws regardless of age, race, sex, religion, political affiliation or belief, marital status, disability or place of origin.

Position: In-House Legal Counsel
Opening Date: 02/24/16 **Closing Date:** 03/11/16
Salary: $70,000.00 per annum **Pay Level:** Ungraded
Location: Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission, Tinian, MP 96952 USA

Duties & Responsibilities: The In-House Legal Counsel for the Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission is responsible for representing the Commission in legal matters involving the administration of the Revised Tinian Casino Gaming Control Act of 1989. The primary duties of this position include advising and representing the Commission on all matters relating to the casino regulation on Tinian for the Commission's review and ensure that the Commission policies and regulations are adopted in compliance with the law. Legal Counsel shall conduct research and issue legal opinions on a variety of matters relating to administrative and casino gaming regulation, and provide training to the Commission and staff on legal matters, and prepare memorandums and correspondences for the Commission and Executive Director and perform other related duties as assigned by the Chairman of the Commission.

Qualifications: Graduation from a US accredited college or university with a Juris Doctorate degree. Applicant must a be member in good standing with the CNMI Bar or a member of a state bar and qualify to practice law in the CNMI. The applicant must have at least 3 years legal work experience as a practicing attorney, preferably for government entities and/or experience in gaming regulation. Pass the pre-employment drug testing and other applicable standards, pursuant to the TCGCC Personnel Regulations.

Special Conditions of Employment: Employment will be undertaken pursuant to TCGCC Personnel Regulations including, but not limited to, Article 3: Section 3-108(1): "There are special conditions and standards of employment which are considered implicit to successful performance in certain positions. These conditions may relate to unusual hours of work, physical or medical standards, maintenance of a license and health certificate, availability during non-standard working hours or need to frequently travel."

INTERESED INDIVIDUALS MAY OBTAIN EMPLOYMENT APPLICATION AT THE TCGCC MAIN OFFICE IN TINIAN. THE COMPLETED EMPLOYMENT APPLICATION AND ALL RELATED DOCUMENTS INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, RESUME, SCHOOL DIPOLMA(S) OR TRANSCRIPTS, AND POLICE CLEARANCE MUST BE SUBMITTED TO THE PERSONNEL SPECIALIST OR ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AT THE TCGCC MAIN OFFICE WHILE POSITION IS STILL OPEN.

TCGCC RESERVES THE RIGHT TO EXTEND OR CANCEL THIS ANNOUNCEMENT, WITH OR WITHOUT CAUSE.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Don't be afraid of people with disabilities

Our people with disabilities on island may look different, or act different, but that is because they are just as unique as you are. Believe it or not our people with disabilities on island also have many things in common with you, including but not limited to the desire to love and be loved, to be included in all aspects of our community living, and to live the way they choose to.

Since Nov. 21, 2001, when I began working for NMPASI, it seemed at least to me that one of the biggest barriers for people with disabilities when dealing with others is the fear of the unknown. It is just a defense mechanism, and a natural human reaction when confronted with someone or thing unfamiliar.

I know when we first meet someone who looks or acts different, we may have our guard up, and that is okay, but don't be afraid. Try to talk to them, get to know them, before judging them. Like the old adage "Don't judge a book by its cover," give the person an opportunity by getting to know them first.

During the first year I worked at NMPASI, I met parents of a child with Cerebral Palsy who used a wheelchair. The parents met with me in their home, but the child was in the backroom. I asked about the child and they told me that when they bring him out, he scares guests away. He flails his arms, makes weird noises, and drools on himself. That is why when they have visitors they put him in the back room. I was shocked, and did not know how to respond to this due to my lack of experience as an advocate for our people with disabilities.

Today, I am better at my job, and take pride in our efforts of NMPASI to treat everyone we meet with dignity and respect, regardless of disability.

About midway through my time at NMPASI, I met with law enforcement folks who got complaints from storeowners who claim a person with a disability hangs out around their store all the time. I asked them if the individual with a disability was breaking any laws, they said "no, but he walks funny and seems drunk all the time." I informed our law enforcement folks that the person, if not a danger to himself or others, should be left alone, after all this is America, the land of the free and the home of the brave.

A couple of years ago, I met a man who asked me what he should do with his brother who was just walking around island with no real direction or reason. I asked him if he did anything wrong like steal or cause injury, and brother said "no," so I said to him "let him be free like the birds in the sky and the fish in the sea."

The Council on Developmental Disabilities (CDD) in 2004 put out a sticker that read "Attitudes are the real disability." I appreciated this sticker so much, I put on my truck until the truck completely rusted out, and sticker fell off.

Nowadays, I know things are changing for the better, but we still have a ways to go, as far as fighting the stigma and fear of people with disabilities in our community.

With this said, and to help alleviate more fear of people with disabilities, I invite everyone to take part in the upcoming Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month (DDAM) and National Disabilities Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM) activities on March 7, 8, and 9, 2016. These training dates are for Saipan. Tinian and Rota will have their own days in March for the same presentations on topics including but not limited to self-advocacy, laws that protect our people with disabilities, Workforce Improvement Opportunity Act, Individualized Education Plans, Individualized Plans for Employment, and the Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines. Please stay tuned to our local papers for venue for Saipan, and dates of trainings on Tinian and Rota as well.

Another way to help dissipate fear of people with disabilities is to be part of the Autism Society of the CNMI's (ASCNMI's) April Autism Awareness Month (AAM) activities including the Proclamation on April 1, the "Hot Dog Walk and Family Fun Day" which is a three-mile walk from the Last Command Post in Marpi to the Grotto and Suicide Cliff split in the road and back to the Last Command Post for water, hot dogs, and with all the fixings and fellowship. Finally, the culminating event for AAM 2016 is Quiz Nite 5!!! At this event, teams of however many folks try to take the most points as a team from a total of 50 possible points. This trivia challenge is a whole evening's affair with dinner, auctions, and raffle prizes. The first place team has bragging rights until April 2017!

Let us come together as a community to learn and become more aware of disabilities and issues surrounding people with disabilities in our beautiful island jewels in the sea.

For more on disabilities, or issues surrounding disabilities, do not hesitate to contact us at NMPASI (670) 235-7273 or 4, TTY and Fax at 235-7275, or online at www.nmpasi.org.

"Disabilities are a natural part of the Human Experience"—**U.S. Congress (1973)**

Thomas M. Thornburgh
NMPASI program manager

HIGH

From Page 16

A meeting is scheduled for March 7, 2016 at 2pm at the Rota Health Center conference room. The Rota leaders along with the Rota Health Center and the Rota inter-island Medical Referral office will be discussing issues regards to "Medical Referral" matters. All interested parties are invited and encouraged to attend the meeting.

Sen. Teresita Santos
Via email

ROBERT TENORIO TORRES, F0197
ATTORNEY AT LAW
PLATA DRIVE, WHISPERING PALMS (CHALAN KIYA)
P.O. BOX 503758 CK
SAIPAN, MP 96950
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CIVILLE & TANG, PLLC
SIRENA PEREZ CASSIDY, F0338
330 HERNAN CORTEZ AVENUE, SUITE 200
HAGATNA, GUAM 96910
TELEPHONE: (671) 472-8869/69
FACSIMILE: (671) 477-2511

Attorney for Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

ANZ GUAM, INC., formerly known as CITIZENS SECURITY BANKS (GUAM), INC., Plaintiff, vs. JESUS T. LIZAMA dba VICTORIA HOTEL, J&JEV ENTERPRISES, INC., and the BANK OF GUAM, Defendants.	] Civil Action No. 00-0296 D]] (SECOND AMENDED)] NOTICE OF AUCTION and JUDICIAL] SALE]]]

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that under and by virtue of the Amended Judgment made and entered in the above titled action on 30th day of January, 2001, by the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, to satisfy the amount found and adjudged due to Plaintiff ANZ GUAM, INC., formerly known as CITIZENS SECURITY BANK (GUAM), INC. ("ANZ"), in the above titled action from Defendants JESUS T. LIZAMA DBA VICTORIA HOTEL AND J&JEV ENTERPRISES, INC., as prescribed in the Order Directing Foreclosure Sale of Mortgaged Property filed on February 13, 2013, pursuant to 7 CMC § 4537(e) the undersigned counsel or his designee will sell at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the **21st day of March, 2016** at 10 a.m., at the Law Office of Robert T. Torres, Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, Saipan, the premises and real estate, lying and being on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, described in said judgment, to wit:

PARCELS 1 & 2:

a. LOT 001 D 13, (formerly known as Block 3, Lot 1), as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 001 D 00, the original of which was registered 30 SEP 70 as Document No. 512 at Land Registry, Saipan.

b. LOT 001 D 14, (formerly known as Block 3, Lot 2), as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 001 D 00, the original of which was registered 30 SEP 70 as Document No. 512 at Land Registry, Saipan.

And immediately thereafter, the sale of the following parcel of property:

PARCEL 3:

c. TRACT 21732-9, part of original Tract 21732-R1, AH 140), as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 2085/84, the original of which was recorded 08 AUG 84 as Document No. 84-1439 at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office, Saipan.

Terms and Conditions of Sale.

1. Rights and duties of Auctioneer. Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, the auctioneer or his designee shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:
   a. Withdraw the property listed for sale in the public announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted.
   b. To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is sold, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
   c. To reject any and all bids.

2. Bids. All the property listed in this notice shall be sold to the highest bidder at a public auction, without any warranty being given, express or implied, with respect to the title, possession, and encumbrances, to satisfy the amount due to Plaintiff ANZ GUAM, INC. on the date of the sale under the Amended Judgment as prescribed in the Order Directing Foreclosure Sale of Mortgaged Property. ANZ GUAM, INC. reserves the right to bid all or part of the amount due at the time of the sale.

3. Payment. A deposit of twenty percent (20%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale by the successful bidder. The remaining balance will be due within ten days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, cashier's check, or money order. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the 20% deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the property will revert to the Plaintiff, ANZ GUAM, INC., formerly known as CITIZENS SECURITY BANK (GUAM), INC.

4. Inspection. Interested bidders may inspect the property at the following times:
Parcels 1 & 2: February 26, 2016 at 3:00 p.m.
Parcel 3: February 29, 2016 at 9:00 a.m.

5. Change of Terms. ANZ GUAM, INC., reserves the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.

6. No Warranty. Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property. The interests of the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.

DATED this 11th day of February, 2016.

__/s/_____
Robert T. Torres, Auctioneer

February 9, 2016

TO: ROSA M. DELA CRUZ, individually and as Administratrix of the Estate of GABRIEL D. DELA CRUZ, Deceased:

You are in default in your Promissory Note dated August 1, 1988 (modified by revision agreements dated January 6, 1995, and July 27, 1999), secured by a Real Estate Mortgage of the same date, executed and delivered by you to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation.

(a) Description of the real property covered by Mortgage:

Lot no. 005 I 516, situated in Saipan, Northern Marianas Islands, containing an area of 743 square meters, more or less, as shown on the Division of Lands and Surveys Official Cadastral Plat no. 2084/82, the original of which was registered with the Land Registry as Document no. 14232, the description therein being incorporated herein by reference.

(b) Date and amount of Promissory Note and Mortgage: Promissory Note dated August 1, 1988, $48,500.00
Revision agreement dated January 6, 1995, $76,333.33;
Revision agreement dated July 27, 1999, $71,185.77;
Mortgage dated August 1, 1988, $48,500.00.

(c) Amount due for principal: $8,150.63 as of February 1, 2016
(d) Amount due for interest: $50,935.51 as of February 1, 2016
(e) Daily accruing interest: $11.81
(f) Late charges -0-

If the principal, interest, and late charges of $59,086.14 as of February 1, 2016, plus accruing interest, together with reasonable attorney's fees in the amount of $500.00 are not paid within thirty (30) days from the date of service of this notice upon you, you will be in default, and Court proceedings will be commenced against you to foreclose upon the said Mortgage because of the default.

Unless you, within thirty (30) days after receipt of this letter dispute the validity of the claim, or any portion thereof, we will assume that it is valid. If you notify us in writing within this thirty (30) day period that the claim, or any portion thereof, is disputed, we will obtain information on the debt and mail you a copy thereof. Upon your written request within this thirty (30)-day period, we will provide you with the name and address of the original creditor, if different from the creditor indicated above.

This letter is an attempt to collect a debt. Any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

▪▪▪▪▪

Ti un komple i kontratahan debimu (Promissory Note) ni un fitma gi Agosto 1, 1998 (ni un ribisa gi Enero 6, 1995 yan Julio 27, 1999), ni afabobot i Real Estate Mortgage ma aseguro i tano yan guma ni um empeña gi mismo dia, un fitma yan un entrega i empeña (Mortgage) guato gi Northern Marianas Housing Corporation.

(a) I deskripsion tano ni ma empeneñ (mortgaged):

Sito numiro 005 I 516, ni gaigi gi Saipan, Northern Marianas, ni ha konsiste un aria 743 kuadrao metro, mas pat menus, ni anok gi Dibision Tano yan Dididan Tano ofisiat Cadastral Plat numiro 2084/2, i orihinat ni ma recodia gi Rehistrasion Tano komu Dukumento numiro 14232, guihi i diskripsion ni ma incorporate guini ginen i infotmasion.

(b) I kantida yan i fechan este na debi yan empepeña: Promissory Note gi Agosto 1, 1988, $48,500.00
Ma ribisa gi Enero 6, 1995, 76,333.33
Ma rebisa gi Julio 27, 1999, $71,185.77
Empeña (Mortgage) gi Agosto 1, 1988, $48,500.00

(c) Kantida un debi para principat: $8,150.63 asta ki Febreru 1, 2016
(d) Kantida un debi para interes: $50,935.51 asta ki Febreru 1, 2016
(e) Interes kada dia: $11.81
(f) Apas pot atrasao (late charges): -0-

Yangin ti un apasi i kantida na principat, interes, yan apas pot atrasao (late charges), $59,086.14 asta ki Febreru 1, 2016 yan interest, yan i resanable na apas abugado pot $500.00 gi halom trenta (30) dias despues di i fecha ni un resibe esta na notisia, un ma konsidera komo ti unkomple i kontratamu (default), ya siempre umatutuhun kontra hago a kausan kotti ni para uma kondena ya uma bendi i propriadat tano'mu ni un empepeña guato gi Northern Marianas Housing Corporation.

Solo yangin halom trenta (30) dias dispues de un resibe este na kata yan un kontra minagahet-ña pot i apudera sino komo i pattida, siempre bai in hongge an asientadu a apudera. Pago yangin un kattayi ham gi halom este i trenta (30) dias siklo man infofotma hao pot i apudera sino komo i pattida para un kontra, pues bai in henta infotmasion pot i dibi-mu dispues un ma kattayi i kopia pot este na de'unta. Anai in resibe i katta-mu gi halom trenta (30) dias siklo, bai in nai'i hao i na'an yan address i akredot komo ti parehu na akredot ma indika guini hulu.

Este na katta para u ma na'kesiña ma rikohi i debi-mu. Maseha hafa na infotmasion ni in resibe pot este na apudera – siña bai in usa para bai in ke-chagi mu rekohi para este i dibi-mu.

Su Seguro Servidor,

/s/ Michael A. White, ESQ.
Attorney at Law

WELLESLEY
W
of the
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

Calling All Alumnae
Please contact Janet King
Janet.King@kingattorney.com
(670) 233-1209

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETING

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, the Commonwealth Ports Authority hereby gives notice that a Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on Wednesday, March 2, 2016, at 9:00 a.m. in the CPA Conference Room located on the second floor of the Captain George Fleming Building at the Port of Saipan. The following items are on the agenda for the above-referenced meeting:

AGENDA

I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS
1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Adoption of Minutes (January 13, 2016)

II. PUBLIC COMMENT(S)
III. EXECUTIVE SESSION
IV. CORRESPONDENCES
V. COMMITTEE REPORTS
1. Financial Affairs Committee
2. Airport Facilities Committee
3. Seaport Facilities Committee
4. Personnel Affairs Committee

VI. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT
VII. OLD BUSINESS
1. None.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS
1. Supplemental Budget Request: Airport and Seaport
2. Ricondo and Associates Master Concession Contract Change Order No. 2
3. Tinian International Airport Terminal Improvement Project Change Order No. 1
4. Mobil Lease – Airport
5. POI Aviation Lease
6. Pacific Subsea Lease
7. Skywalker Contract
8. Position Description Approval – Human Resources Specialist
9. Board Resolution

IX. MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS
X. ADJOURNMENT

All interested persons are welcome to attend and to submit written or oral testimony on the above agenda items.

/s/ JOSE R. LIFOIFOI
Chairman, Board of Directors
February 25, 2016

JENNIFER DOCKTER
LAW OFFICE OF F. MATTHEW SMITH, LLC
2nd Floor, MIC Building, Chalan Monsignor Guerrero
San Jose Village
P.O. Box 501127
Saipan, MP 96950-1127
Telephone Nos.: (670) 234-7455 / 7427
Facsimile No.: (670) 234-7256

Attorney for Petitioner.

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF EDWARD LIZAMA VILLANUEVA, Deceased.	] Civil Action No. 16- 0027 - CV] **NOTICE OF HEARING and NOTICE TO CREDITORS**] Date: March 29, 2016] Time: 1:30 p.m.] Honorable Judge David A. Wiseman

TO: THE HEIRS, GENERAL PUBLIC AND CREDITORS OF THE DECEDENTS OR OF THEIR ESTATE

Notice is hereby given that the Petitioner, Elphidia Sanchez, has filed a Petition For Letters of Administration in the above-entitled Estate proceeding pursuant to Rule NMI R. of Prob. P. 15.

A hearing on the petition will be conducted by the Court on **March 29, 2016 at 1:30 p.m.** in Courtroom 223, Superior Court. All persons interested are hereby notified to appear at the hearing and show cause, if any, why the order should not be made.

Pursuant to NMI R. of Prob. P. 21, notice is hereby given to all creditors of the Decedent or his Estate that they must file their claims with the Clerk of Court within sixty (60) days of the publication of this notice. A copy of the claim of any creditor should be sent to Jennifer Dockter at the above indicated address.

Reference is hereby made to the petition for further particulars.

SO NOTICED this 19th day of February 2016.

/s/
JENNIFER DOCKTER (F0465)
Attorney for Petitioner

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATION STATEMENTS FOR ENGINEERING DESIGN SERVICES

BENJAMIN TAISACAN MANGLONA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT PERIMETER FENCING REPLACEMENT PROJECT NO. CPA-RA-001-16

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting statements of professional qualifications from interested Consultants for Engineering Design Services for the replacement of the airport perimeter fencing at the Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport, Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands.

The project is being funded by the U.S. Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). This project is in accordance with CPA's Procurement Rules and Regulations and procedures shall be in full compliance with Section 40-50-202 Architect-Engineer Design and Construction Management Services.

The Request for Qualification (RFQ) Package is available at CPA's Office of the Executive Director, 2nd floor of the arrival terminal. No fee is required for obtaining the proposal package. Questions regarding this request for RFQ statements must be submitted to Ms. Wendi L. Prater, CPA Executive Assistant, at (670) 237-6500, faxed to (670) 234-5962 and/or emailed to cpa.engr@pticom.com and wprater@cpa.gov.mp by no later than Friday, February 19, 2016, 4:30 p.m., local time.

At a minimum, the statements of professional qualification will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

1. A/E design experience in similar scoped projects in the Pacific area and especially in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Island – (35 points);
2. A/E Design experience related to projects funded in whole or in part by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) – (25 points);
3. The general reputation of the Consultant in terms of quality of A/E work experience and services performed for AIP projects, and the Consultant's professional integrity and competence – (15 points);
4. Capacity to accomplish the work within the contract time - (15 points); and
5. Resumes of key personnel including current licenses and registrations of principal – (10 points).

Interested Consultants shall submit one (1) original, four (4) copies and one (1) electronic version in .pdf on a compact disc of their statements of professional qualifications no later than **4:30 p.m., FRIDAY, MARCH 4, 2016.** Statements of qualification must be presented by a combination of both brochures and the use of current U.S. Government Standard Form 330.

Discussions may be conducted with at least three (3) of the firms regarding the agreement requirements and technical approach and selection made there from, in order of preference, of no less than three (3) firms determined to be the most highly qualified to perform the services required.

An agreement shall be negotiated with the highest qualified architect/engineer firm or company at a price determined to be fair and reasonable to the government. If a fair and reasonable price cannot be negotiated with the highest ranking qualified firm, then additional firms may be selected in order of competence and qualifications and negotiations continued until a fair and reasonable price is agreed upon.

All responses to this RFQ shall take into account any and all taxes that will be charged to the consultant awarded an agreement for this project, including excise tax.

The CPA reserves the right to reject any or all statements of professional qualification for any reason, if in its sole opinion to do so would be in its best interest.

Send information to:
Ms. MaryAnn Q. Lizama
Executive Director
Commonwealth Ports Authority
P.O. Box 501055
Saipan, MP 96950-1055

/s/ ROMAN T. TUDELA
Acting Board Chairman/Contracting Officer

Date: February 2, 2016

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATION STATEMENTS FOR ENGINEERING DESIGN SERVICES

BENJAMIN TAISACAN MANGLONA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT AIRFIELD MARKINGS IMPROVEMENT PROJECT PROJECT NO. CPA-RA-002-16

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting statements of professional qualifications from interested Consultants for Engineering Design Services for the project onsite assessment and survey and preparation of design with plans and specifications to remove and replace all airfield marking and other miscellaneous work to complete the project at the Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport, Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands. The design must comply with FAA A/C 150-5340-1L.

The project is being funded by Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). This project is in accordance with CPA's Procurement Rules and Regulations and procedures shall be in full compliance with Section 40-50-202 Architect-Engineer Design and Construction Management Services.

The Request for Qualification (RFQ) Package is available at CPA's Office of the Executive Director, 2nd floor of the arrival terminal. No fee is required for obtaining the proposal package. Questions regarding this request for RFQ statements must be submitted to Ms. Wendi L. Prater, CPA Executive Assistant, at (670) 237-6500, faxed to (670) 234-5962 and/or emailed to cpa.engr@pticom.com and wprater@cpa.gov.mp by no later than Monday, February 22, 2016, 4:30 p.m., local time.

At a minimum, the statements of professional qualification will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

1. A/E design experience in similar scoped projects in the Pacific area and especially in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Island – (35 points);
2. A/E Design experience related to projects funded in whole or in part by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) – (25 points);
3. The general reputation of the Consultant in terms of quality of A/E work experience and services performed for AIP projects, and the Consultant's professional integrity and competence – (15 points);
4. Capacity to accomplish the work within the contract time - (15 points); and
5. Resumes of key personnel including current licenses and registrations of principal – (10 points).

Interested Consultants shall submit one (1) original, four (4) copies and one (1) electronic version in .pdf on a compact disc of their statements of professional qualifications no later than **4:30 p.m., MONDAY, MARCH 7, 2016.** Statements of qualification must be presented by a combination of both brochures and the use of current U.S. Government Standard Form 330.

Discussions may be conducted with at least three (3) of the firms regarding the agreement requirements and technical approach and selection made there from, in order of preference, of no less than three (3) firms determined to be the most highly qualified to perform the services required.

An agreement shall be negotiated with the highest qualified architect/engineer firm or company at a price determined to be fair and reasonable to the government. If a fair and reasonable price cannot be negotiated with the highest ranking qualified firm, then additional firms may be selected in order of competence and qualifications and negotiations continued until a fair and reasonable price is agreed upon.

All responses to this RFQ shall take into account any and all travel costs and taxes that will be charged to the consultant awarded an agreement for this project, including excise tax.

The CPA reserves the right to reject any or all statements of professional qualification for any reason, if in its sole opinion to do so would be in its best interest.

Send information to:
Ms. MaryAnn Q. Lizama
Executive Director
Commonwealth Ports Authority
P.O. Box 501055
Saipan, MP 96950-1055

/s/ ROMAN T. TUDELA
Acting Board Chairman/Contracting Officer

Date: February 2, 2016

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATION STATEMENTS FOR ARCHITECTURAL/ENGINEERING DESIGN SERVICES

FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT LOADING BRIDGES 2, 3 AND 6 REPLACEMENT PROJECT NO. CPA-SA-003-16

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting statements of professional qualifications from interested Consultants for Architectural and Engineering (A/E) Design Services for the removal and replacement of three (3) passenger loading bridges at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands.

The project is being funded by the U.S. Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). This project is in accordance with CPA's Procurement Rules and Regulations and procedures shall be in full compliance with Section 40-50-202 Architect-Engineer Design and Construction Management Services.

The Request for Qualification (RFQ) Package is available at CPA's Office of the Executive Director, 2nd floor of the arrival terminal. No fee is required for obtaining the proposal package. Questions regarding this request for RFQ statements must be submitted to Ms. Wendi L. Prater, CPA Executive Assistant, at (670) 237-6500, faxed to (670) 234-5962 and/or emailed to wprater@cpa.gov.mp by no later than Friday, February 19, 2016, 4:30 p.m., local time.

At a minimum, the statements of professional qualification will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

1. A/E design experience in similar scoped projects in the Pacific area and especially in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Island – (35 points);
2. A/E Design experience related to projects funded in whole or in part by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) – (25 points);
3. The general reputation of the Consultant in terms of quality of A/E work experience and services performed for AIP projects, and the Consultant's professional integrity and competence – (15 points);
4. Capacity to accomplish the work within the contract time - (15 points); and
5. Resumes of key personnel including current licenses and registrations of principal – (10 points).

Interested Consultants shall submit one (1) original, four (4) copies and one (1) electronic version in .pdf on a compact disc of their statements of professional qualifications no later than **4:30 p.m., Friday, March 4, 2016.** Statements of qualification must be presented by a combination of both brochures and the use of current U.S. Government Standard Form 330.

Discussions may be conducted with at least three (3) of the firms regarding the agreement requirements and technical approach and selection made there from, in order of preference, of no less than three (3) firms determined to be the most highly qualified to perform the services required.

An agreement shall be negotiated with the highest qualified architect/engineer firm or company at a price determined to be fair and reasonable to the government. If a fair and reasonable price cannot be negotiated with the highest ranking qualified firm, then additional firms may be selected in order of competence and qualifications and negotiations continued until a fair and reasonable price is agreed upon.

All responses to this RFQ shall take into account any and all taxes that will be charged to the consultant awarded an agreement for this project, including excise tax.

The CPA reserves the right to reject any or all statements of professional qualification for any reason, if in its sole opinion to do so would be in its best interest.

Send information to:
Ms. MaryAnn Q. Lizama
Executive Director
Commonwealth Ports Authority
P.O. Box 501055
Saipan, MP 96950-1055

For the Commonwealth Ports Authority:

/s/ ROMAN T. TUDELA
Acting Board Chairman/Contracting Officer

Date: February 2, 2016

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATION STATEMENTS FOR ENGINEERING DESIGN SERVICES

TINIAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT AIRFIELD MARKINGS IMPROVEMENT PROJECT PROJECT NO. CPA-TA-002-16

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting statements of professional qualifications from interested Consultants for Engineering Design Services for the project onsite assessment and survey and preparation of design with plans and specifications to remove and replace all airfield marking and other miscellaneous work to complete the project at the Tinian International Airport, Tinian, Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands. The design must comply with FAA A/C 150-5340-1L.

The project is being funded by Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). This project is in accordance with CPA's Procurement Rules and Regulations and procedures shall be in full compliance with Section 40-50-202 Architect-Engineer Design and Construction Management Services.

The Request for Qualification (RFQ) Package is available at CPA's Office of the Executive Director, 2nd floor of the arrival terminal. No fee is required for obtaining the proposal package. Questions regarding this request for RFQ statements must be submitted to Ms. Wendi L. Prater, CPA Executive Assistant, at (670) 237-6500, faxed to (670) 234-5962 and/or emailed to wprater@cpa.gov.mp by no later than Monday, February 22, 2016, 4:30 p.m., local time.

At a minimum, the statements of professional qualification will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

1. A/E design experience in similar scoped projects in the Pacific area and especially in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Island – (35 points);
2. A/E Design experience related to projects funded in whole or in part by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) – (25 points);
3. The general reputation of the Consultant in terms of quality of A/E work experience and services performed for AIP projects, and the Consultant's professional integrity and competence – (15 points);
4. Capacity to accomplish the work within the contract time - (15 points); and
5. Resumes of key personnel including current licenses and registrations of principal – (10 points).

Interested Consultants shall submit one (1) original, four (4) copies and one (1) electronic version in .pdf on a compact disc of their statements of professional qualifications no later than **4:30 p.m., MONDAY, MARCH 7, 2016**. Statements of qualification must be presented by a combination of both brochures and the use of current U.S. Government Standard Form 330.

Discussions may be conducted with at least three (3) of the firms regarding the agreement requirements and technical approach and selection made there from, in order of preference, of no less than three (3) firms determined to be the most highly qualified to perform the services required.

An agreement shall be negotiated with the highest qualified architect/engineer firm or company at a price determined to be fair and reasonable to the government. If a fair and reasonable price cannot be negotiated with the highest ranking qualified firm, then additional firms may be selected in order of competence and qualifications and negotiations continued until a fair and reasonable price is agreed upon.

All responses to this RFQ shall take into account any and all travel costs and taxes that will be charged to the consultant awarded an agreement for this project, including excise tax.

The CPA reserves the right to reject any or all statements of professional qualification for any reason, if in its sole opinion to do so would be in its best interest.

Send information to:
Ms. MaryAnn Q. Lizama
Executive Director
Commonwealth Ports Authority
P.O. Box 501055
Saipan, MP 96950-1055

/s/ ROMAN T. TUDELA
Acting Board Chairman/Contracting Officer

Date: February 2, 2016

Atkins Kroll is hole-in-one sponsor for Charity Golf Classic

Atkins-Kroll Saipan general manager Douglas A. Brennan presented Hyatt Regency Saipan with their one-of-a-kind donation for the 20th Annual Charity Golf Classic event to be held on April 13, 2016.

Atkins-Kroll's hole-in-one donation of the 2016 Toyota Tacoma, 4-cylinder, 4x4 with Access-Cab holds a manufacturer's value of $34,500 on the island of Saipan. Proceeds from the event go to support the Make-A-Wish Foundation and The Northern Marianas Trades Institute.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From left, Atkins Kroll Saipan general manager Douglas A. Brennan; Hyatt Regency Saipan executive chef de cuisine Zenn Tomokane; Hyatt Regency Security manager Robin Eugenio; Atkins-Kroll Saipan F&I business manager Joaquin Blanco; Hyatt Regency executive director of Rooms Rosalyn Quintanilla; Atkins-Kroll Saipan sales associate Nicole Sablan; Atkins-Kroll Saipan sales associates Liza Taylor; Atkins-Kroll Saipan F&I manager Steve P. Sablan; Atkins-Kroll Saipan sales associate Curtis Dancoe; and Atkins-Kroll Saipan sales manager Glen V. Perez pose for a group photo.

"Community support and community involvement have always been high priorities for Atkins Kroll Saipan. The opportunity to assist Hyatt Regency Saipan with their annual Charity Golf Classic is always a pleasure, especially since this year marks the 20th anniversary of the tournament. We here at AK Saipan are proud to offer up the most popular light truck on the island as a hole-in-one prize for this year's tournament, in the form of a 2016 Toyota Tacoma 4x4 Access-Cab truck. We applaud the hard work and dedication the folks at Hyatt Regency Saipan expend to organize this tournament every year and commend them on putting the proceeds from the tournament to good use in the community by supporting amazing organizations like the Make-a-Wish Foundation. For the past 20 years Hyatt Regency Saipan has successfully grown the tournament into one of the most popular golf events on island and a key charity fundraiser. From all of us at Atkins Kroll Saipan, we wish all the players the best of luck in this year's tournament. Good golfing!" said Brennan.

"We are honored to have the support of Atkins-Kroll Saipan as an event partner, yet again, and especially for this year as it commences the 20th anniversary. We are deeply grateful for their continued support," said Hyatt Regency general manager Nick K. Nishikawa.

Atkins-Kroll's contribution of the Toyota Tacoma qualifies the company as a hole-in-one sponsor and a Platinum event partner—the highest partnership level across the tournament. ***(PR)***

Small craft, high surf advisories cancelled

The small craft and high surf advisories in the CNMI have been cancelled after trade-wind swell have decreased just enough such that surf has fallen below hazardous levels, according to information received from the National Weather Service in Tiyan, Guam and compiled at the CNMI Emergency Operations Center.

Regional buoys show that combined seas have decreased to between 6 and 9 feet. Satellite-derived sea heights also show seas to be below 10 feet

Regional buoy data also show that east swell has decreased to between 6 and 8 feet. Surf observations indicate surf along east facing shores between 6 and 9 feet, which are below hazardous levels. East swell is expected to decrease another foot over the weekend.

Acting governor Francisco M. Borja, however, is still advising the general public and mariners to continue exercising caution as seas and winds will be close to hazardous levels for the next few days. ***(PR)***

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

JVA No. 16-019

Opening Date: Friday, February 26, 2016
Closing Date: Thursday, March 10, 2016

Internal Auditor

DUTIES: Under the direct supervision of the CUC Board of Directors. May supervise staff to include: prioritizing and assigning work; conducting performance evaluations; ensuring staff is trained; ensuring that employees follow policies and procedures; maintaining a healthy and safe working environment; and, making hiring, termination, and disciplinary recommendations. Coordinates and conducts comprehensive internal financial, operational and/or information systems audits to determine compliance with, and effectiveness of established controls and regulations; implements audit programs to address and improve operational efficiency and to minimize risk exposure. Researches business control needs and identifies audit scope and objectives; prepares audit work plans; identifies key stakeholders; and determines scheduling and audit processes. Performs and/or coordinates assessments and internal audit activities related to controls, compliance, and operational efficiency; analyzes risk; collects, researches and analyzes financial and operational data, records and information; and identifies issues and deficiencies. Communicates and documents audit findings, risk exposures, and internal control issues; prepares and presents reports and recommendations for corrective actions, internal control improvements, and methods to improve operational efficiency. Reviews and evaluates internal audit processes and procedures; provides recommendations for efficiency and quality improvements and/or automated processes. Performs other duties of a similar nature and level as assigned.

LOCATION : **Saipan**, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
SALARY : $82,995.00 per annum. (Salary is negotiable based on qualifications and experience.)
POSITIONS : One (1).
CONTRACT : Two (2) Year Contract.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS: **Education:** Bachelor's Degree in business, finance or related field and 5-7 years of related experience; or, an equivalent combination of education and experience sufficient to successfully perform the essential duties of the job such as those listed above, unless otherwise subject to any other requirements set forth in law or regulation. **Licensing/Certification Requirements:** Valid U.S. Driver's License with appropriate class; Certified Internal Auditor or Certified Information Systems Auditor. **Knowledge of:** Applicable Federal, Commonwealth and local laws, codes, regulations and/or ordinances; Supervisory principles, practices and techniques (based on assignment); US Generally Accepted Accounting Principles; US Generally Accepted Auditing Standards; Financial, management and operational analysis principles; Internal audit methods, controls and standards relevant to area of assignment; Mathematical principles; Research methods; Customer service principles; Modern office technology. **Skill In:** Interpreting and applying applicable laws, codes, regulations and standards; Supervising, monitoring, training and evaluating staff (based on assignment); Conducting comprehensive internal audits; Assessing internal controls and risk; Reviewing operational effectiveness and compliance; Identifying audit scope and objectives; Planning and implementing schedules and audit process flow; Researching and analyzing data and information; Documenting and presenting audit findings and recommendations; Providing customer service and advising management on compliance practices; Reviewing processes and providing recommendations to improve efficiencies and quality; Utilizing a computer and relevant software applications; Utilizing communication and interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, and others to sufficiently exchange or convey information and to receive work direction. Applicants may be tested. Subject to a pre-employment drug screening.

Drop off your CUC Employment Application at the CUC Human Resource Office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan. Otherwise, you may drop it off at the Tinian and Rota Administration Office.

An Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer
P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950-1220 U.S.A. • Tel. Nos. (670) 235-7025 to 32 Fax (670) 235-5131

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Man'amko and youth bridge

Man'amko people are full of wisdom and rich in life experience. They have biographies full of long and hard work for the CNMI and U.S. economies. *Man'amko*'s hearts ache for their folks and the Marianas' present and future. *Man'amko* feel changes in the air and want to see young generation smart, well educated and business-accurate to make our islands an even better place to live and prosper.

Today's youth are our future leaders, qualified specialists and masters of their vocations. The *man'amko* is trying to enhance the intergenerational bridge. Office on Aging, *Man'amko* Royalty and *Man'amko* Council, active *man'amko* keep causing good influence on the schoolgoers in the best meaning of the word.

Man'amko representatives visit the schools and organize historical and cultural heritage classes. These contacts are permanent. *Man'amko* Royalty, especially its king put regular and useful efforts in this direction. The work is valued by holding surveys based on *Man'amko* Fair Book, a fusion of efforts of Administration for Native Americans, Office on Aging, and Public School System. Soon, efforts will be made to establish joint plan with some organizations for cultural, historical, educational development.

Now, most of the interactions are between Chamorro and Carolinian *man'amko* and youth. Soon, Tagalog-speaking *man'amko* and youth bridge will start. We ask UFO and other organizations for cooperation.

For one good example, Kagman school leaders and teachers are interested in *man'amko* and youth cooperation. Their students come to *man'amko* regularly to show their respect to their elders and to learn something positive each time. *Man'amko* congregation loves to see young among them, they become younger and stronger in their presence. They dance and sing together, spiritual and generational unity strengthens.

Parents are busy at work, not always have the time, means and possibility to spend quality time with their beloveds. So, for the youth, receiving life knowledge from *man'amko* is a sure and mutually beneficial way. *Man'amko* feel happy to plant seeds of *man'amko* into the young souls. They enrich each other highly positively! A win-win situation!

Man'amko happily tell the young their life, love, work, grieves, and their happiest moments of their life. They share with the young their life experience, values worth to stand for, importance of working wisely and business-accurate ways. National pride must be enriched by being at the front line of progress and balanced development. Our islands' nice climats and location give us leverage. These privileges must be combined with promoting tourism education services, science-applied technological solutions.

Mixing with the elderly, watching them, listening to them, the students form their own vision how to live responsibly and based on their own talents,earned knowledge and smartness. This process develops slowly but is mind expanding for sure. Empty words, unrealistic projects, whistling more than moving forward never really improves our life. To work not necessarily hard but always wisely as possible!

As they grow, the youth will get ready, little by little, mentally and psychologically, to find out their own ways to make working and living honestly and responsibly profitable and prestigious. They will come to learning that reputation and respect from others are earned by good behavior and responsible actions. They will know firmly that by empty words , show-offs, "window-dressings" give no real improvement and prosperity. Their brains will turn hungry for new and highly effective time/ resources saving technologies. They will go for the endless blessings coming from using computerization. They will grow proud of being of the nation of dignity.

In time, some of the young will get spread all over the world. Some will be living and stay deeply rooted in Marianas. No matter when and what kind of challenges life holds for them, the youth will follow these basic wisdom. They will be guided by the common sense learned from parents and *man'amko* and apply them into their life creatively. They will be grateful to the *man'amko*! In time, they will pass their knowledge and wisdom earned by their life efforts to their young. It is how the life tree is green forever.

Diego Pua
Man'amko king

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

JVA No. 16-020

Opening Date: Friday, February 26, 2016
Closing Date: Until Filled

Executive Director

Duties: Work under the direct supervision of the Board of Directors or his/her designee. Supervises staff to include: prioritizing and assigning work; conducting performance evaluations; ensuring staff is trained; ensuring that employees follow policies and procedures; maintaining a healthy and safe working environment; and, making hiring, termination, and disciplinary recommendations. Assumes full management responsibility for all of CUC's divisions and services. Directs and oversees the strategic planning, development and implementation of programs and services; directs operations within financial constraints and in accordance with CUC policies, regulations, and under the direction of the Board. Monitors and evaluates efficiency and effectiveness of service delivery methods and processes; assesses and monitors service delivery levels; identifies opportunities, weaknesses and strengths of divisions; directs the implementation of changes. Plans, directs and coordinates work of divisions through the upper management team by meeting with management to identify, prioritize and resolve problems. Manages the development and implementation of goals, objectives, missions, policies, priorities and allocations of resources. Participates on a variety of board and committees and attends a wide variety of management meetings. Performs short and long-range strategic planning. Prepares and submits annual budget recommendations and financial analysis for Board approval; implements, communicates and administers approved budget; ensures fiscal compliance. Performs other duties of a similar nature and level as assigned.

LOCATION(S) : **Saipan**, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
SALARY : Based on credentials and specialized experience as a utility executive in a U.S. state, U.S. territory, U.S. commonwealth, and/or the District of Columbia.
CONTRACT : Two-year, subject to renewal.
POSITION(S) : One (1).

Minimum Requirements:
Successful candidates for CUC's Executive Director must have the following:

- Education or Education/License Combination:
  - Master's degree in management, engineering, finance, or public administration, "OR", in the alternative, a bachelor's degree in engineering and registration as a Professional Engineer pursuant to the National Council of Engineering Examiners standards in either the civil, mechanical, or electrical branch;
- Experience:
  - Senior management experience of at least ten (10) years in a similar wastewater, drinking water, and/or power utility (preferably combined utility), with similar or greater capital and operating budgets, capital improvement projects, human resource needs, utility financing issues, operation and maintenance training and implementation needs.
  - In addition, the Executive Director (ED) shall demonstrated the following: Proven management and communication skills;
  - Demonstrated ability to lead, motivate, and develop staff;
  - Experience with managing major drinking water and wastewater systems during periods of planning, design, and construction; and Experience with drinking water and wastewater systems; user fee system development; bond funding; staff training and development; and federal drinking water and wastewater requirements.
- Knowledge of:
  - Applicable Federal, Commonwealth and local laws, codes, regulations and/or ordinances;
  - Advanced managerial principles, practices and techniques;
  - Leadership principles;
  - Utility service administration principles and practices;
  - Financial management and forecasting principles;
  - Strategy development principles and procedures;
  - Contract management principles;
  - Risk management principles;
  - Customer service principles;
  - Project management principles;
  - Modern office technology.
- Skill in:
  - Interpreting and applying applicable laws, codes, regulations and standards;
  - Managing, monitoring, and evaluating subordinates;
  - Providing organizational leadership and administration;
  - Developing and executing strategic plans, programs, and policies;
  - Planning and oversight of organizational programs and functions;
  - Providing strategic and visionary thinking;
  - Providing short and long-range planning, development and implementation;
  - Forecasting, developing and administering organization budget;
  - Critical thinking and independent decision making;
  - Providing legal, policy and contractual compliance oversight;
  - Serving as organization representative to management, the Board and external stakeholders;
  - Preparing and delivering public presentations;
  - Providing fiscally sound decision making;
  - Utilizing a computer and relevant software applications;
  - Utilizing communication and interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, and others to sufficiently exchange or convey information and to receive work direction.
- Driver's License:
  - Must have a CNMI driver's license or one from a U.S. jurisdiction.

RELOCATION EXPENSES: If hired from outside the CNMI, relocation expenses are negotiable; but they are not to exceed $5,000.00 for moving to Saipan and not to exceed $5,000.00 for moving away from Saipan. Receipts will be required for justification. Other conditions may be applicable.

SUBMISSION PROCESS: To apply, please submit a resume, cover letter, a list of references, and a CUC Employment Application by one of the following means:

1. United States Postal Service, First Class Mail or Priority Mail*:

   Human Resource Office
   Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
   P. O. Box 501220
   Saipan, MP 96950-1220 USA

   *If you choose to submit via USPS, please still also fax "or" email "or" drop off your package.

2. Fax: 670-235-5131

3. Drop Off:

   Drop off your package at the CUC Human Resource Office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan. Otherwise, you may drop it off at the CUC Tinian or Rota Administration Office.

POLICIES: The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation is an equal opportunity provider and employer and will not discriminate or tolerate discrimination against any employee or applicant in any manner prohibited by law.

It is also the policy of CUC to achieve a drug-free workplace and persons selected for employment will be required to pass a drug test which screens for illegal drug use prior to final appointment.

An Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer
P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950-1220 U.S.A. • Tel. Nos. (670) 235-7025 to 32 Fax (670) 235-5131

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

JVA No. 16-021

Opening Date: Friday, February 26, 2016
Closing Date: Until Filled

Deputy Executive Director
(Water & Wastewater)

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation ("CUC") is seeking for a qualified Deputy Executive Director ("DED"). CUC is a public utility corporation located on the island of Saipan in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands ("CNMI")—a United States territory in the northwestern Pacific Ocean.

The CNMI is a tropical paradise of fourteen islands. In the CNMI you can escape to a place of magnificent beaches and crystal clear aqua waters, and rich history. Saipan offers year-round outdoor activities, world class diving and golfing, international shopping, a range of ethnic restaurants and a cacophony of indigenous and international cultures.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND OPPORTUNITY OFFERED:
Reporting directly to CUC's Executive Director or designee, the Deputy Executive Director ("DED") fills a position required by the Stipulated Order ("SO") of the United States of America vs. the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, filed in the U.S. District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands, Civil Case No. CV 08-0051.

- Primarily responsible for overseeing, all drinking water and wastewater operations and compliance activities and deliverables, on a daily basis, as required by the Stipulated Order. Responsible for maintaining regular contact with EPA staff regarding CWA and SDWA compliance issues. Has authority to make decisions for management and operations of the drinking water and wastewater systems.
- Supervises staff to include: prioritizing and assigning work; conducting performance evaluations; ensuring staff is trained; and, making hiring, termination, and disciplinary recommendations.
- Provides staff assistance to the Executive Director to include: coordinating activities between CUC and outside organizations and agencies; researching and preparing recommendations on operational directives; and, preparing and presenting staff reports.
- Assumes full management responsibility over divisions as delegated by the Executive Director. Plans, directs and coordinates work of divisions through department heads by meeting with management to identify, prioritize and resolve problems.
- Directs and implements maintenance plans; evaluates maintenance programs to ensure maintenance standards are enforced.
- Participates on a variety of boards and committees and attends a wide variety of management meetings.
- Serves as the Executive Director when the Executive Director is out of the CNMI.
- Performs short and long-range strategic planning.
- Other duties of a similar nature or level as assigned or required.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:
Successful candidates for CUC's Deputy Executive Director must have the following:

- Education:
  - Master's degree in management, engineering, finance or public administration, "OR", in the alternative, a bachelor's degree in engineering "and" registration as a Professional Engineer pursuant to the National Council of Engineering Examiners standards in either the civil, mechanical, or electrical branch. [With your cover letter or resume, please provide a copy or verification of your education and/or registration.]
- Experience:
  - Senior management experience of at least ten (10) years desired in similar wastewater and drinking water utility (combined utility is preferred), with similar or greater capital and operating budgets, capital improvement projects, human resources needs, utility financing issues, operation and maintenance training, and implementation needs. [With your cover letter or resume, please provide information supporting your professional background and work assignments showing senior management experience. Please cite duration, responsibility level, duties, position, and other relevant experience substantiating senior management experience.]
- Certification and Licensing:
  - A Water and Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator's Certificate is desired, but not mandatory.
  - Ability to obtain and maintain a CNMI driver's license of the appropriate class upon hire is required.
- Must demonstrate:
  - Proven management and communications skills;
  - Demonstrated ability to lead, motivate, and develop staff;
  - Experience with managing major water and wastewater systems during periods of planning, design, and construction;
  - Experience with water and wastewater systems, user fee system development, bond funding, staff training and development, and federal drinking water and wastewater requirements.
  - Experience with user fee system development and bond funding is desired, but not mandatory.
- Knowledge of:
  - Leadership principles;
  - Supervisory principles;
  - Strategic planning principles;
  - Budgetary principles;
  - Project management principles;
  - Applicable laws, rules and regulations.
- Skill in:
  - Monitoring and evaluating staff;
  - Prioritizing and assigning work to staff;
  - Preparing and administering budgets;
  - Developing and administering strategic plans;
  - Managing large, complex projects;
  - Giving presentations;
  - Preparing technical reports;
  - Using computers and related software applications;
  - Communication, interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, etc. sufficient to exchange or convey information and to receive work direction.

SALARY INFORMATION: Based on credentials and specialized experience as a water and wastewater utility senior manager (executive) in a U.S. state, U.S. territory, U.S. commonwealth, and/or the District of Columbia.

POSITION: One (1).

CONTRACT: Two-year; subject to renewal.

RELOCATION EXPENSES: If hired from outside the CNMI, relocation expenses are negotiable; but they are not to exceed $5,000.00 for moving to Saipan and not to exceed $5,000.00 for moving away from Saipan. Receipts will be required for justification. Other conditions may be applicable.

SUBMISSION PROCESS: These applicants are welcomed and encouraged to contact Human Resources to confirm such inclusion and/or to update their submission. All applicants are should review the minimum requirements and present an application package that clearly addresses such requirements. Applicants are asked to please submit (1) a cover letter, (2) a resume, (3) a list of references, and (4) a CUC Employment Application by one of the following means:

1. United States Postal Service, First Class Mail or Priority Mail*:

   Human Resource Office
   Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
   P. O. Box 501220
   Saipan, MP 96950-1220 USA

   *If you choose to submit via USPS, please still also fax "or" email "or" drop off your package.

2. Fax: 670-235-5131

3. Email: employment.applications@cucgov.org

4. Drop Off: Drop off your package at the CUC Human Resource Office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan. Otherwise, you may drop it off at the CUC Tinian or Rota Administration Office.

POLICIES: The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation is an equal opportunity provider and employer and will not discriminate or tolerate discrimination against any employee or applicant in any manner prohibited by law.

It is also the policy of CUC to achieve a drug-free workplace and persons selected for employment will be required to pass a drug test which screens for illegal drug use prior to final appointment.

An Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer
P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950-1220 U.S.A. • Tel. Nos. (670) 235-7025 to 32 Fax (670) 235-5131

GPPC, INC.
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(01) Accounting Technician: $6.10 - $7.50/hour
College graduate with at least five years experience as an Accounting Technician. Capable of performing combined routine calculations, posting and verifying duties to obtain primary financial data and maintain accounting records.

(01) Administrative Assistant: $6.10 - $7.50/hour
Must be a college graduate with a minimum of two years experience. Knowledgeable on construction business. Preferably someone who can operate Microsoft Office & Power Point Programs.

(02) Architectural Drafter Technician: $6.10 - $8.25/hour
College graduate with a minimum of five years experience as an Architectural Technician. Able to prepare detailed drawings of architectural/structural features of buildings, as well as drawings and photographic relief of maps used in civil engineering projects such as, highways, bridges and other public works. Knowledgeable on building materials, engineering practices and mathematics used to complete drawing drafts.

(04) Auto Body Repairer: $6.10 - $6.50/hour
Must be a high school graduate with at least two to five years experience as an Auto Body Repairer. Knowledgeable on repairing and refinishing automotive vehicle bodies and straightening vehicle frames.

(02) Automobile Electrician: $6.10 - $6.75/hour
A minimum of five years work related experience. Able to diagnose and undertake electrical repairs on a wide variety of vehicles and heavy equipment. Must be knowledgeable on electric motor, alternator, starter, and motor rewinding.

(40) Carpenters: $6.10 - $7.50/hour
Must be a high school graduate with a minimum of five years experience as a Carpenter. Knowledgeable on constructing, erecting, installing, and/or repairing structures and fixtures made of wood including: concrete forms, building frameworks, partitions, joists, studding, rafters, wooden stairways, windows, door frames, and hardwood floors.

(4) Civil Engineering Technician: $6.10 - $8.25/hour
College graduate with a minimum of two years experience as a Civil Engineering Technician. Able to apply Theory and Principles of Civil Engineering in planning, designing, and overseeing construction, structure maintenance and facilities under the directions of engineering staff or physical scientist.

(01) Construction Manager: $3,125.00
Must be a college graduate or with a minimum of five year's experience as a Construction Manager, including managers in specialized construction fields, such as, carpentry or plumbing. Knowledgeable on planning, directing, and coordinating activities concerning construction and maintenance of structures, facilities, and systems with subordinate supervisory personnel. Able to participate in the conceptual development of a construction projects and oversee its organizations such as, scheduling, budgeting, and implementation.

(01) Diesel Fuel Injection Pump Technician: $6.10 - $7.25/hour
High School Graduate with a minimum of five years work related experience. Must be knowledgeable on repairing diesel fuel injector components, including pumps, injectors and turbochargers. Able to diagnose, service and maintain fuel injection systems.

(01) Diesel Mechanic: $6.10/hour
Must be a high school graduate with at least five years work-related experience.

(17) Electrician: $6.10 - $7.15/hour
Must be a high school graduate with a minimum of two years experience as an Electrician. Knowledgeable on installing, maintaining and repairing electrical wirings, equipment and other fixtures. Able to install or service street lights, intercom systems, and electrical control systems.

(2) Electrical Engineering Technician: $6.10 - $6.50/hour
College graduate with a minimum of two years experience as a Electrical Engineering Technician. Able to apply Theory and Principles of Electrical Engineering in planning, designing, and overseeing construction, structure maintenance and facilities under the directions of engineering staff or physical scientist.

(3) General Maintenance: $6.10 - $6.35/hour
High school graduate with at least five years experience as a General Maintenance. Able to install various equipment.

(15) Heavy Equipment Mechanic: $6.10 - $7.50/hour
High school graduate with a minimum of five years experience as a Heavy Equipment Mechanic. Knowledgeable on diagnosing, adjusting, repairing, and overhauling automobiles, cranes, bulldozers, graders, excavators, trucks, conveyors and other heavy equipment typically used in construction.

(30) Heavy Equipment Operator: $6.10 - $7.15/hour
High school graduate with at least two years experience as a Heavy Equipment Operator. Must be knowledgeable on operating several types of power construction equipment such as, motor graders, bulldozers, trenching machines, scrapers, compressors, pumps, derricks, shovel tractors and front-end loaders to excavate, move and grade earth, erect structures, pour concretes and etc.

(02) Machinist: $6.10/hour
A high school graduate with at least five years experience as a Machinist.

(40) Mason: $6.10 - $7.00/hour
High school graduate with a minimum of three years experience as a Mason. Knowledgeable on smoothing and finishing poured concretes such as, floors, walks, sidewalks, roads and curbs using variety of hand and power tools. Able to align forms for sidewalks, curbs, gutters, patch voids and use various saws to cut expansion joints.

(03) Mechanical Engineering Technician: $6.10 - $6.50/hour
College graduate with a minimum of two years experience as a Mechanical Engineering Technician. Able to apply Theory and Principles of Mechanical Engineering in planning, designing and overseeing construction, structure maintenance and other facilities under the direction of engineering staff or physical scientist.

(10) Painter: $6.10 - $6.55/hour
A high school graduate with a minimum of five years experience as a Painter. Knowledgeable on operating and tending to various painting machines. Able to paint transportation equipment surfaces like automobiles, buses, trucks, trains, boats, airplanes and etc.

(20) Plumber: $6.10 - $7.50/hour
A high school graduate with a minimum of five years experience as a Plumber. With knowledge to install, assemble, alter and repair pipelines that carry water, steam, air, or other liquids and gasses. Able to install heating and cooling equipment and mechanical control system.

(01) Q.C. Asphalt Paving Technician: $6.10 - $6.50/hour
A high school graduate with a minimum of two years work-related experience.

(02) Rigger: $6.10 /hour
A high school graduate with a minimum of two years work-related experience.

(01) Sheet Metal Worker: $6.10 - $6.75/hour
A high school graduate with a minimum of two years experience as a Sheet Metal Worker. Must be knowledgeable on installing pre-fabricated sheet metal ducts used for heating, air-conditioning equipment and etc.

(8) Steel Worker: $6.10 - $7.25/hour
A high school graduate with a minimum of five years experience as a Steel Worker. Knowledgeable on rising, placing, and uniting iron and steel girders, R-columns and other structural members to form a complete structures or structural frameworks. Able to erect metal storage tanks and assemble pre-fabricated metal buildings. Position and secure steel bars or mesh in concrete forms in order to reinforce concrete structures.

(02) Tower Crane Operator: $6.10 - $6.35/hour
A high school graduate with a minimum of two years work-related experience. Must be able to comply with all safety regulations and work with minimal supervision.

(2) Truck Driver: $6.10 - $7.10/hour
A high school graduate with at least two to five years experience as a Truck Driver. Able to drive a tractor, trailer and truck with a capacity of at least 26,000 GVW for various construction material transportation.

(16) Welder: $6.10 - $7.00/hour
Must be a high school graduate with a minimum of two years experience as a welder. Knowledgeable on using hand-welding, flame cutting, hand soldering, and other brazing equipment to weld or join metal components or to fill holes, indentations, or seams of fabricated metal products.

Interested applicants may apply at GPPC, INC. office located at As Perdido, Saipan, CNMI.
A copy of police clearance must be attached to the application. Incomplete application will NOT be accepted.
Skills, testing maybe required. Salaries will commensurate to experience and qualifications.
Closing date will be on March 04, 2016.
GPPC, INC is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From left, Department of Public Safety Commissioner Robert Guerrero, Tinian DFEMS Deputy Commissioner Ignacio Kiyoshi, Sen. Jude U. Hofschneider, Tinian Municipal Council Chairman Raynaldo M. Cing, acting governor Francisco M. Borja, Tinian Mayor Joey P. San Nicolas, CIP administrator Virginia Villagomez from OMB, Tinian Municipal Council vice chair Diana H. Borja, Sen. Francisco Q. Cruz, and Elizabeth Balajadia

APEX BUILDERS, INC.
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

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College graduate with a minimum of two years experience as a Civil Engineering Technician. Able to apply Theory and Principles of Civil Engineering in planning, designing, and overseeing construction, structure maintenance and facilities under the directions of engineering staff or physical scientist.

(6) Electrician: $6.10 - $7.15/hour
Must be a high school graduate with a minimum of two years experience as an Electrician. Knowledgeable on installing, maintaining and repairing electrical wirings, equipment and other fixtures. Able to install or service street lights, intercom systems, and electrical control systems.

(2) General Maintenance: $6.10 - $6.35/hour
High school graduate with at least five years experience as a General Maintenance. Able to install various equipment.

(6) Heavy Equipment Mechanic: $6.10 - $7.50/hour
High school graduate with a minimum of five years experience as a Heavy Equipment Mechanic. Knowledgeable on diagnosing, adjusting, repairing, and overhauling automobiles, cranes, bulldozers, graders, excavators, trucks, conveyors and other heavy equipment typically used in construction.

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High school graduate with at least two years experience as a Heavy Equipment Operator. Must be knowledgeable on operating several types of power construction equipment such as, motor graders, bulldozers, trenching machines, scrapers, compressors, pumps, derricks, shovel tractors and front-end loaders to excavate, move and grade earth, erect structures, pour concretes and etc.

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Interested applicants may apply at APEX Builders, Inc. office located at GPPC Inc. building, As Perdido, Saipan, CNMI. A copy of police clearance must be attached to the application. Incomplete application will NOT be accepted. Skills, testing maybe required. Salaries will commensurate to experience and qualifications. Closing date will be on March 04, 2016.
APEX BUILDERS, INC. is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Borja leads ribbon cutting for new Tinian DPS building

Acting governor Francisco M. Borja delivered the opening remarks in the ribbon cutting ceremony of the newly renovated Tinian DPS building last Wednesday.

Borja extended a sincere appreciation to Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and Lt. Gov. Victor Hocog as well as CIP administrator Virginia Villagomez and her team and other stakeholders on the success of the project. ***(PR)***

Major coastal environment project kicks-off in N. Efate

PORT VILA, Vanuatu—A new project that will draw upon local community knowledge and expertise in North Efate to better manage coastal resources has been launched today by the Pacific Community (SPC) and Vanuatu stakeholders.

The restoration of ecosystems services and adaptation to climate change project (RESCCUE) is being implemented regionally until the end of 2018, with pilot sites in Fiji, New Caledonia, French Polynesia and Vanuatu.

In Vanuatu, its goals are to improve the resilience of North Efate's population to the impacts of climate change and of natural hazards, such as tropical cyclones, through integrated coastal management.

The project will combine expertise from local communities, government agencies and international organizations to trial appropriate methods for activities, including managing invasive species, improving waste disposal, sustainable fishing practices, managing community protected areas, developing sustainable livelihoods and using economic and financial tools.

"We're pleased to see operational activities getting under way thanks to the interest and commitment of community members and the government," RESCCUE Project Coordinator at SPC, Dr. Raphaël Billé, said at the launch event in North Efate.

Villages from Mangaliuliu to Malarip will work closely with national government agencies, Shefa Provincial Government and non-government organizations projects in the area.

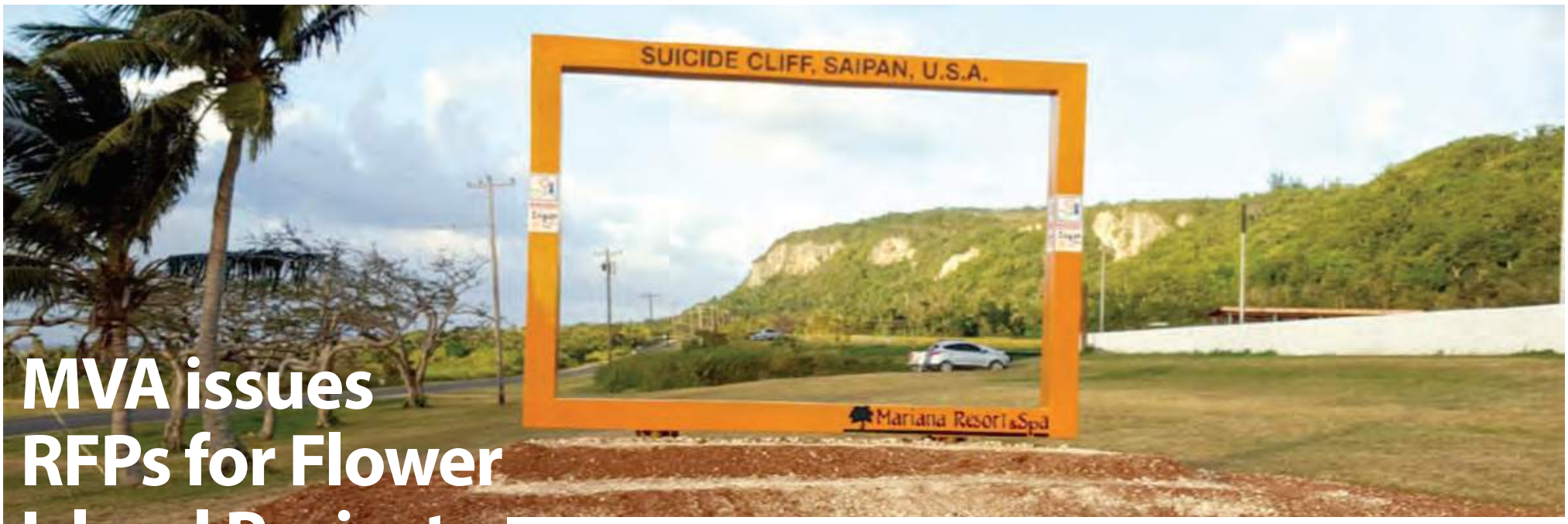
RESCCUE will set up information-sharing tools so that techniques and ways of managing resources can be shared between the North Efate villages—to work toward local needs being met by local information.

Lessons learned and information materials developed by SPC and GIZ through the Coping with Climate Change in the Pacific Island Region program will also be shared throughout North Efate.

The RESCCUE project is funded primarily by the French Development Agency and the French Global Environment Facility and implemented by SPC in conjunction with the project manager, Opus International Consultants, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation and External Trade, the national steering committee and numerous local partners.

The first national steering committee meeting took place on Tuesday, attended by representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation and External Trade, SPC, national government departments concerned with the project, provincial representatives and other stakeholders.

The RESCCUE launch follows the signing earlier this week of a five-year agreement between the Vanuatu Government and SPC covering collaboration to sustainable development outcomes. ***(PR)***



MVA issues RFPs for Flower Island Project

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

A photo-op frame in scenic Marpi as a backdrop is the latest destination enhancement project in Saipan by the Marianas Visitors Authority. The site will also include a permanent camera stand for selfies. The MVA is now soliciting proposers for the Flower Island destination enhancement project.

As part of its latest destination enhancement work, the Marianas Visitors Authority has issued two RFPs for the Flower Island Project, which will begin with improvements to Coral Tree Avenue, Beach Road medians, and the Paseo de Marianas.

Proposals are being sought for landscaping services along Beach Road and Coral Tree Avenue. The project involves the planting of Royal Palm trees, Temple Fire Bougainvillea, and turfon the two northernmost traffic medians on Beach Road near the American Memorial Park. Pink Tacomah trees damaged by Typhoon Soudelor will be replaced along Coral Tree Avenue in front of Fiesta Resort & Spa and Hyatt Regency Saipan.

The MVA is also soliciting proposals for A&E design and landscaping designs for improvements to the Paseo de Marianas pedestrian mall. The improvements will include a new children's play area with benches and lighting, an outdoor stage, new roofs for shaded seating, uplighting of trees, new signage, and more.

"Flower Island Project aims to create a lasting impression of tropical beauty for visitors, and the two RFPs issued this month are just the beginning," said MVA Community Projects manager Martin Duenas. "We're looking forward to selecting contractors within the next couple of months to begin working with our new product development manager, who is responsible to oversee and help expedite all destination enhancement projects. We are expecting projects to move more quickly under their management, although of course we still need to comply with all procurement procedures and timelines."

Interested contractors may download the applicable RFPs at www.mymarianas.com. ***(PR)***

Chamber to host 'Profit Mastery' seminar

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce will present "Profit Mastery: Creating Value & Building Wealth" that would feature internationally-known and respected speaker, Steve LeFever.

This engaging two-day program is designed to help owners, entrepreneurs, accountants, and managers of all businesses better understand financial management and increase their chances of success in today's changing economic conditions.

This two-day program includes presentations on financial statement analysis, cash flow planning; planning for growth; cost, volume and pricing issues; and determining the right kind of financing for your business. Participants will practice teaching points by using case studies and discussing real-life examples. This is the best investment you will make in you and your business this year!

Each participant will receive refreshments, breakfast, lunch, as well as valuable and exclusive Profit Mastery training materials totaling up to $550 in value.

This workshop will be held at LaoLao Bay Golf Resort Caladium Hall Banquet Room on March 22, 2016 from 8am to 5pm and on March 23, 2016 from 8am to 4pm.

The cost is $100 per person for Chamber Members, and $150 per person for non-Chamber members. Space is limited, so reserve your seat today by calling the Saipan Chamber of Commerce at (670) 234-7150 or email administator@saipan-chamber.com. ***(PR)***

TO HIS ETERNAL HOME

HERMAN LAWRENCE UNTALAN HOFSCHNEIDER

born on August 4, 1958, sailed to his new home to be with our Heavenly Father on Monday, February 22, 2016 at the age of 57.

Throughout his lifetime, ***†HERMAN,*** ***(known by many as "Må")*** was very caring, kind, supportive and most of all a loving husband to his wife ***SHEINA OSMENA HOFSCHNEIDER*** and father to his ***son MARKO.***

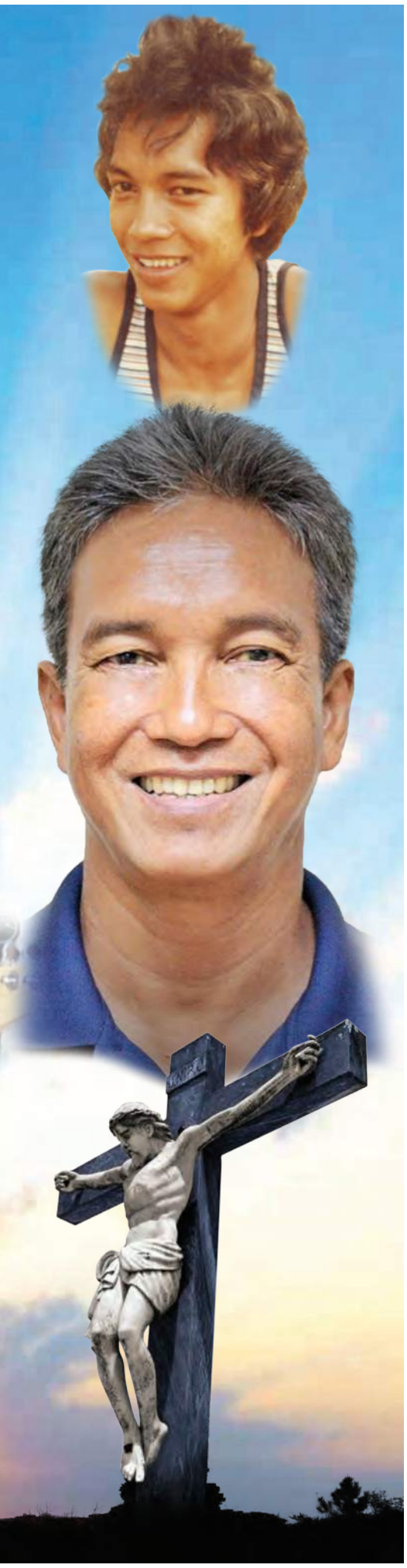
Må´ lived a simple life and was loved by many whom he had crossed paths with. Memories of his kind personality, friendship, laughter, pleasant smile, helpful hands and leadership shall live on in the hearts of his wife and son, his siblings, sisters-in-law and their families, **James U.**/Penelope B. Hofschneider and children; **Alvin U.**/Louise DLG. Hofschneider and children; **Bertha H.**/Raymond Aguon and daughter; **Richard U.**/Liana S. Hofschneider and children; **Norbert U.**/Lynette I. Hofschneider and children; **Alice Untalan Hofschneider** and son; **Julian U.**/Margarita D. Hofschneider and children; **Corrine Ana H.**/John R. Santos and children]; **Jude Untalan Hofschneider**/Zenaida C. Javier and children; **Florine** M. Hofschneider and Son; AnaMaria B. Hofschneider and children; Barbara F. Hofschneider and daughter. He will also be greatly missed by his uncles, Atanacio "Ace" C./Caroline Untalan and Jose C./Christie Untalan and Juan M./Liz King; his aunties Augusta Hofschneider/Sylvestre Palacios and children; Guadalupe R. Hofschneider and children; Emerenciana A. Hofschneider and children together with numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, nephews, nieces, classmates, godparents, godchildren and close friends.

As he entered through the gates of Heaven, ***Må´*** will be greeted and escorted by his parents, ***†Richard Villagomez and Andresina Cruz Untalan Hofschneider,*** joined by his brothers, ***John, Henry Lambert, and Francisco Rudolfo***, together with other family members who are now at peaceful rest. ***Må´s*** love for music and the strumming of his guitar shall always be heard and remembered through the voices and musical talents of his brothers.

Daily mass of intention is offered at 6:00 a.m. at Kristo Rai Church, Saipan, and holy rosary is prayed at 7:00 p.m. at San Jose Church, Tinian. We, the family, invite you to join us as we say our last good-byes and to bring our dearly beloved to his final resting place on ***Tuesday, March 01, 2016 beginning at 7:30 a.m. followed with the celebration of the Eucharist at 11:00 a.m. at San Jose Church in Tinian. Burial service follows immediately at San Jose Cemetery, Tinian.***

Your presence, thoughts and most especially your prayers are sincerely appreciated.

Sheina Osmena and Marko O. Hofschneider
Brothers, Sisters and Families



Life & Style

Chart-topping Adele gets emotional with big Brit Awards win

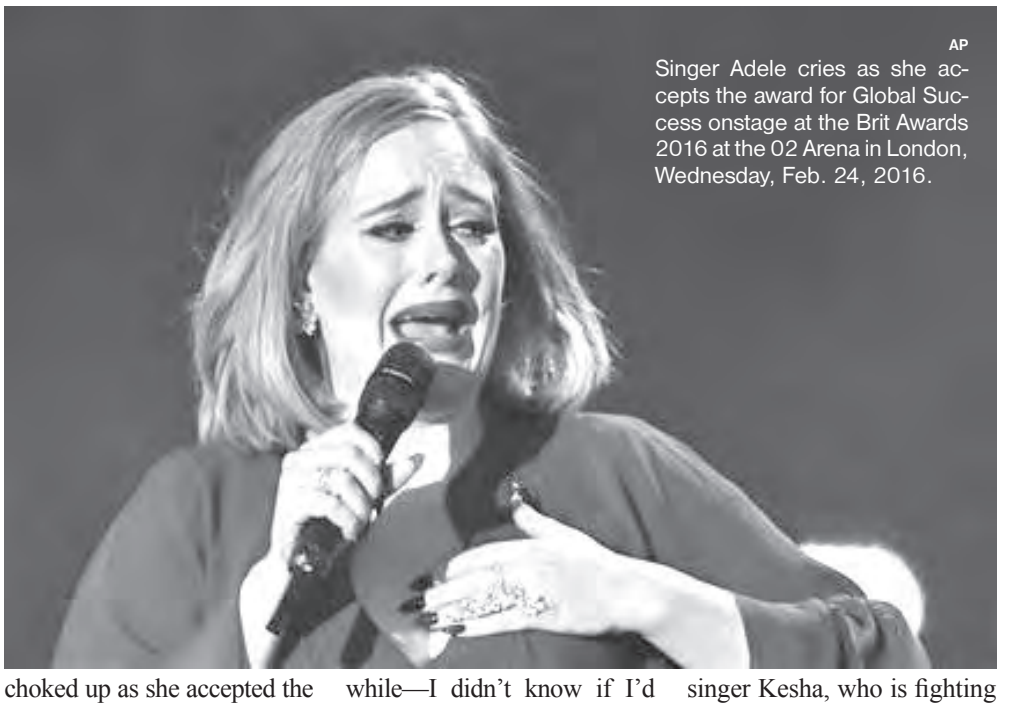
LONDON (AP)—A tearful Adele was crowned queen of the British music scene—and banished memories of Grammy Awards sound glitches—with four prizes and a soulful performance at the Brit Awards on Wednesday.

"Not bad for a girl from Tottenham that don't like flying," said the North London-born singer as she accepted the Global Success Award.

The world-conquering diva also took trophies for British female solo artist of the year; British single of the year, for lovelorn ballad "Hello"; and album of the year for 15 million copy-selling "25."

Adele has seen "25"—her first album in almost five years—top charts around the world, though her performance at last week's Grammy Awards was unsettled when a microphone fell into a piano during the tender song "All I Ask."

There were no such glitches Wednesday during her performance of "When We Were Young," though the singer



AP

Singer Adele cries as she accepts the award for Global Success onstage at the Brit Awards 2016 at the 02 Arena in London, Wednesday, Feb. 24, 2016.

choked up as she accepted the Global Success award—presented by astronaut Tim Peake from the International Space Station.

"You're getting ... bored of me," she quipped, accidentally slipping an expletive into the live telecast.

"I got really lost for a while—I didn't know if I'd ever come back," she added. "And for you all to be so kind to me..."

Later she apologized for losing her composure.

"I'm really sorry for the ugly crying face," she said.

Adele also sent a message of public support to "Tik Tok" singer Kesha, who is fighting to get out of a contract with record producer Dr. Luke, who she says sexually assaulted her.

The Brits ceremony, performed to music-industry figures and thousands of fans at London's O2 Arena, also featured performances from Coldplay, Justin Bieber and Rihanna—joined onstage by Drake for a sultry "Work."

Singer-songwriter James Bay was named best British male solo artist, while Bieber was named best international male artist. The 21-year-old Canadian star, who has endured some wayward behavior and scrapes with the law, thanked his fans, saying "everybody has their own journey. Everybody has their ups and downs."

The prize for best British group went to dependable crowd-pleasers Coldplay. Singer Chris Martin dedicated the award "to all the young men and women musicians in refugee camps around the world. We could be them and they could be us."

Red House Records president retires from St. Paul folk label

ST. PAUL, Minn. (AP)—The president of Red House Records is retiring after three decades at the St. Paul-based folk and Americana music label.

Red House on Wednesday announced the retirement of Eric Peltoniemi (PELT'-uh-nee-mee). Peltoniemi has led Red House for the past decade, since the death of founder Bob Feldman in 2006.

Peltoniemi calls his retirement a "bittersweet decision," but says it's the right time.

The Red House roster includes The Cactus Blossoms, honky-tonk singer Dale Watson and ex-Jefferson Airplane guitarist Jorma Kaukonen.

Peltoniemi joined Feldman in the fledgling label in 1985. The 66-year-old also has a career writing for musical theater as well as a recording career in Finland.

Red House Records owner Beth Friend, who is Feldman's widow, will become president and CEO.

AP

In this Oct. 29, 2008 file photo, Red House Records president Eric Peltoniemi poses for a photo in St. Paul, Minn.

Experts to probe death of Chilean poet Pablo Neruda

SANTIAGO, Chile (AP)—An international team of genomics experts and forensic specialists said Wednesday it will study the remains of Nobel Prize-winning poet Pablo Neruda to try to solve the cause of his death.

The socialist poet died in the chaos following Chile's 1973 military coup led by Gen. Augusto Pinochet. Some people have speculated he was poisoned by agents of the right-wing dictatorship.

Neruda's body was exhumed in 2013, but tests showed no toxic agents in his bones. Even so, Chile's government said in 2015 that "it's clearly possible and highly probable that a third party" was involved in his death, although it warned that more tests needed to be carried out.

The remains of Neruda's bones and teeth will be analyzed by a lab at Canada's McMaster University's Ancient DNA Center and the University of Copenhagen's Department of Forensic Medicine.

The panel of experts will focus on identifying pathogenic bacteria that might have caused Neruda's death. The researchers say they will use techniques to "extract, purify and enrich fragments of the bacterial DNA," which they hope will yield genomic data that will help solve the nearly 43-year old mystery surrounding his death.

"The search for the truth of the death of the poet, Pablo Neruda, is a forensic challenge. We hope that the work of the Chilean Human Rights Program and the scientists will contribute to the reconciliation between the various groups in Chile," forensic geneticist Niels Morling, director of the Department of Forensic Medicine at the University of Copenhagen, said in a statement.

Neruda was best known for his love poems. But he was also a leftist politician and friend of Marxist President Salvador Allende, who killed himself rather than surrender to troops during the Sept. 11, 1973, coup led Pinochet.

Inevitable illness overshadows man's personal relationships

DEAR ABBY: I have just separated from my wife. I don't plan on dating anytime soon, but I will eventually.

I have a disease that caused my immune system to destroy my liver cells. There is no way to predict whether my liver will fail in five days or five years. Would it be wrong to date knowing I have this disease? There is no cure, just a liver transplant if my liver fails completely.

Also, if it's OK to date, when should I tell someone about my illness? I have no friends because at some point they will see me jaundiced and sick, and I would have to burden them with my health issues or lie.

NEWLY SEPARATED IN MONTANA

DEAR NEWLY SEPARATED: You are allowing your illness to rule your life, and that's not a prescription that's healthy for anyone. Many people suffer from health problems, but they don't cut themselves off from relationships as you have.

Yes, you can date. If it looks like there could be a future, you should bring up the subject of your health at that time. But in the meantime, my advice is to make every effort to enjoy the time you have.

DEAR ABBY: In my mother's opinion, I have a problem. I have prominent nipples that show through shirts. I wear a padded bra, but it doesn't help. I don't want to wear a heavier padded bra because I am big-busted already.

Honestly, the situation doesn't bother me. It's part of being me and no different than having a unibrow or ears that stick out. It's not sexual. Should I worry about what others think about this?

MY EYES ARE UP HERE!

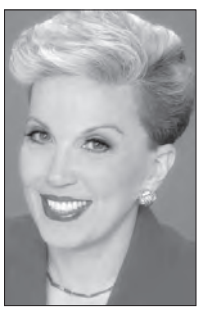
DEAR UP HERE: No. As you are probably already aware, anyone's nipples can become rigid if there's a change in the temperature. It doesn't necessarily signal arousal. If you are comfortable, then keep dressing the way you do. This appears to be your mother's problem. Do not let her anxiety rub off on you.

DEAR ABBY: As an older male retiree, I frequently encounter people at social gatherings who tilt their heads back, narrow their eyes and ask, "Exactly what was it that you did at XYZ Corporation?" When they find out I was what they consider to be "just a paper-pusher," they abruptly turn their backs and walk away. Can you suggest an appropriate response to this form of snobbery?

PAPER-PUSHER IN ARIZONA

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

DEAR PAPER-PUSHER: When someone asks that question, you might smile and respond, "You know, I'm having such a great time in retirement, I can't really recall what I did there!" Or, if you're feeling mischievous, you could call out after the person, "Just kidding! I was the CEO." And if the person turns to come back, turn YOUR back and walk away because, if your perception is correct, you have been conversing with someone who has terrible manners and no class.

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

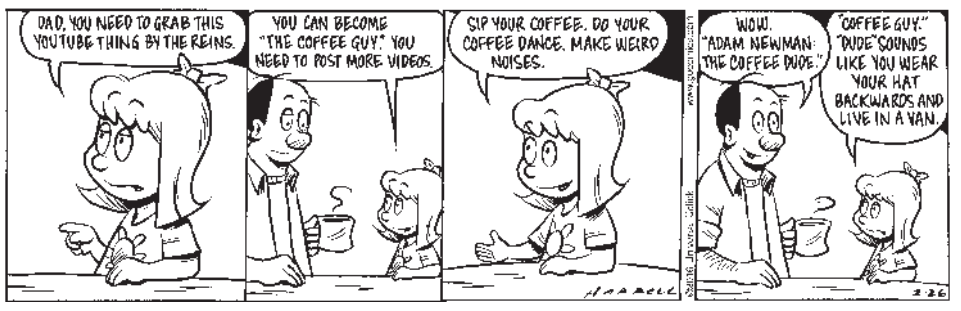
HERE'S A GOOD MOVIE! "VAMPIRE SORORITY BABES"!
IT SAYS YOU HAVE TO BE EIGHTEEN TO GET IN.
HECK, THAT'S NO PROBLEM! LET'S GO!
THIS IS A NEW ONE.
TWO PLEASE. ...I MEAN, ONE.
WATTERSON

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


DAD, YOU NEED TO GRAB THIS YOUTUBE THING BY THE REINS.
YOU CAN BECOME "THE COFFEE GUY." YOU NEED TO POST MORE VIDEOS.
SIP YOUR COFFEE. DO YOUR COFFEE DANCE. MAKE WEIRD NOISES.
WOW. "ADAM NEWMAN: THE COFFEE DUDE."
"COFFEE GUY." "DUDE" SOUNDS LIKE YOU WEAR YOUR HAT BACKWARDS AND LIVE IN A VAN.

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

YOU REALLY SHOULD BUY SOME.
...BUT YOU'VE NEVER LISTENED TO ME BEFORE, SO WHY START NOW, RIGHT?!
I WISH MY MOM NEVER GOT A JOB AS A TELEMARKETER.

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

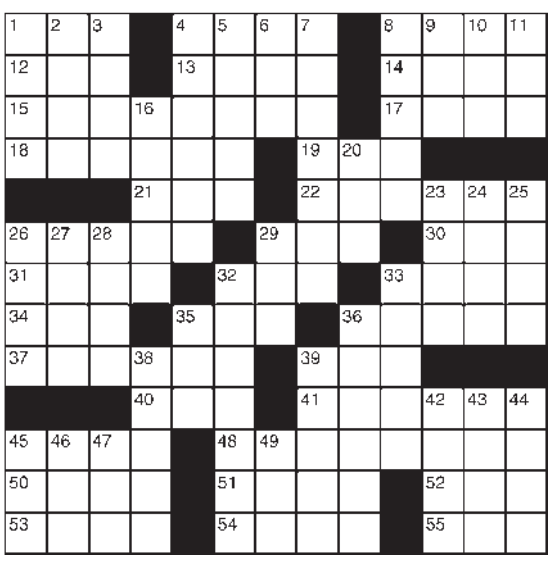
ACROSS
1 Trail the pack
4 Rosary component
8 PC alternatives
12 Under the weather
13 Writer Wiesel
14 Big fair, for short
15 Hot-tempered type
17 Authentic
18 As well
19 Lobbyists' org.
21 Census stat
22 Dapper
26 Deep chasm
29 Energy
30 Historic time
31 Source
32 Peace, to Caesar
33 — impasse
34 Dress (up)
35 Delaware Water —
36 Borneo ape, for short
37 Miss Muffet's bugaboo
39 High school subj.
40 Ms. Thurman
41 Cotton-eating pest
45 Nonfat milk
48 Mike Hammer's creator
50 Verdi opera
51 Capital on a fjord
52 "Give — whirl!"
53 Present day?
54 Joyful tune
55 Doze (off)

DOWN
1 Roster
2 Rival rival
3 Smooth-talking
4 Confuses
5 Select group
6 Put on TV
7 Get rid of
8 "Thanks, Henri"
9 Chopping tool
10 IRS employee
11 Scale member
16 Raise a glass to
20 PC program
23 Greek cheese
24 Drescher or Tarkenton
25 Yin counterpart
26 Sciences' partners
27 Cartoon vamp Betty
28 Quotable Berra
29 Use a ray gun
32 Sunshade
33 Disney mermaid
35 Tiara jewel
36 Feral feline
38 "The Three Musketeers" author
39 Sty chow
42 Futile
43 Division word
44 Pencil filler
45 Jazz combo instrument
46 Kipling lad
47 Wyo. neighbor
49 Greek letter

Solution time: 25 mins.

D	R	A	B	■	W	H	E	W	■	B	A	A
E	E	R	O	■	H	A	L	O	■	U	L	M
J	U	N	G	I	F	G	Y	M	■	N	E	O
A	P	O	G	E	E	■	■	A	U	G	E	R
■	■	■	I	A	■	M	A	N	N	A	■	■
P	A	G	E	■	C	O	G	■	O	L	A	F
E	M	U	■	■	O	N	E	■	■	O	V	A
Z	A	N	Y	■	O	K	S	■	S	W	A	N
■	■	G	A	W	K	S	■	B	E	■	■	■
S	W	A	M	I	■	■	E	R	U	P	■	S
L	I	D	■	D	U	N	G	A	R	E	E	S
A	R	I	■	■	T	N	A	■	■	A	S	A
B	E	N	■	N	E	E	D	■	■	T	O	S

Yesterday's answer 2-26



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Sanya Richards-Ross, 31; Corinne Bailey Rae, 37; Mark Dacascos, 52; Michael Bolton, 63.

Happy Birthday: You have more going for you than you realize. Put your trust in your intelligence and insight and you will find a way to reach your goals. Relationships, family and building a strong and secure future should be your priorities. Look beyond whatever situation you face and you will clearly see which path to follow. Your numbers are 7, 18, 20, 24, 27, 38, 46.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Share your uniqueness and glory with the people you enjoy being with the most. Romance is highlighted, along with personal improvements and the enjoyment that comes from doing something nice for someone you care about. ✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Unexpected changes will catch you off guard. Take action quickly to ensure that you don't suffer a loss due to a lack of insight. Someone will take advantage of you if you aren't savvy about dealing with competitive peers. ✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Aim high when it comes to professional gains and personal relationships. Don't be fooled by someone who is trying to entice you to do something that isn't in your best interest. Don't mix business with pleasure. ✪✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Don't limit what you can achieve. Take care of professional responsibilities so that you can move on to activities that allow you to use your imagination and creativity while sharing memorable moments with someone you love. Don't be afraid to be different. ✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Plan to be pampered or to relax in the company of someone who rocks your world. Don't let a misunderstanding ruin your day. Offer fun and laughter instead of debate and criticism. Formulate plans that include a new partnership. ✪✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Take on an interesting task that will allow you to use your talents in a new and exciting way. Don't let anyone belittle you or your choices. Demanding people are best left out of your plans. Socialize with those who get things done. ✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Show your emotions and discuss your plans with someone you love. Dealing with children, your lover or a close friend will be easy if you share ideas and come up with a plan that will appease both your needs. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Make changes at home that will give you the freedom to follow your heart and your dreams. An industrious plan coupled with relentless energy will be hard to beat. Give your all and you will get what you want. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Don't renege on the promises you make. Your reputation is at risk, and someone will correct you if you embellish a situation to avoid conflict. It's best to get everything out into the open so you can move forward freely. ✪✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): You won't please everyone with your choices. Find out how your intentions will influence the lives of the people around you before you proceed. It's better to act on behalf of everyone if you want things to run smoothly. ✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Take matters into your own hands. You can close deals, sign contracts and invest time into something you enjoy doing. You have plenty of wiggle room, so don't limit what you can do. A change will do you good. ✪✪✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Take partnerships seriously and don't risk the chance to get ahead by being difficult to get along with. If you want to be popular with your peers and considered for a leadership position, try to be a team player. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are perceptive as well as a peacekeeper. You are curious and innovative.

*Eugenia's website—**eugenialast.com**, Eugenia's android app @ **http://bit.ly/exhoro** and join Eugenia on **twitter/facebook/linkedin**.*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

	4							
	2			9	6		4	1
		6	7			8		
	6					1		
	8			3			2	
		7					9	
		9			8	7		
1	3		5	4			6	
							1	

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 2/26

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

2	3	1	7	4	9	6	8	5
6	7	5	3	1	8	2	4	9
4	8	9	6	5	2	1	7	3
7	1	2	8	9	6	3	5	4
5	9	4	1	2	3	8	6	7
3	6	8	5	7	4	9	2	1
1	4	6	9	8	5	7	3	2
9	5	3	2	6	7	4	1	8
8	2	7	4	3	1	5	9	6

Difficulty Level ★★★ 2/25

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WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

WILDFLOWERS Solution: 7 letters

B	S	S	P	R	I	M	R	O	S	E	Ⓑ	O	S	D
E	L	E	T	S	O	I	L	T	L	R	T	Ⓔ	W	M
L	C	A	R	O	T	O	S	A	S	P	E	O	Ⓔ	Y
L	H	H	C	O	O	E	B	O	A	D	R	A	G	Ⓢ
F	A	D	I	K	P	R	M	D	A	C	D	T	N	I
L	M	E	T	C	E	S	A	T	O	O	X	N	I	A
O	O	E	O	H	O	Y	T	N	W	C	A	A	L	D
W	M	W	X	C	L	R	E	H	N	T	L	L	W	A
E	I	G	E	E	A	F	Y	D	I	U	F	P	A	N
R	L	A	E	C	L	H	I	V	S	S	A	S	R	D
A	E	R	T	O	I	L	E	E	C	U	T	L	P	E
T	F	E	W	W	E	E	D	Y	L	A	S	L	S	L
C	D	E	R	U	T	A	N	A	L	D	L	A	E	I
E	R	O	S	E	S	F	D	K	O	S	S	Y	N	O
N	U	T	R	I	E	N	T	S	D	R	I	B	X	N

©2016 Universal Uclick www.wonderword.com Download the Wonderword Game App! 2/26

Adapt, Annuals, Attracted, Bees, Bellflower, Birds, Black-eyed Susan, Calyx, Chamomile, Chicory, Coneflower, Cosmos, Crowd, Daisy, Dandelion, Exotic, Fields, Flax, Freely, Herbal, Leaf, Look, Meadow, Native, Nature, Nectar, Nutrients, Pests, Plant, Primrose, Ragweed, Road, Roots, Roses, Seed, Soil, Spores, Sprawling, Stalk, Stem, Thistle, Weedy

Yesterday's Answer: Expedition

Jo's Jewels Collector's Edition is back by popular demand! Purchase online at www.WonderWordBooks.com or call 1-800-642-6480. (Contains 120 puzzles.)

CLASSIFIED ADS

Backhoe for Rent
For inquiries, please call 285-0478
• Security Services • Heavy Equipment Rental
• General Help Supply Services • Auto & Heavy Equipment Repair Shop

Warehouse for RENT
REM LOWERBASE
Warehouse #3 - Size: 6,000sq/ft
$0.65 per sq/ft. Negotiable
FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL
235-6527/28 or 285-1317

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 5-day run in both print and online editions, for as low as $30 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	$15	$30
• 5-Liner	$24	$45

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

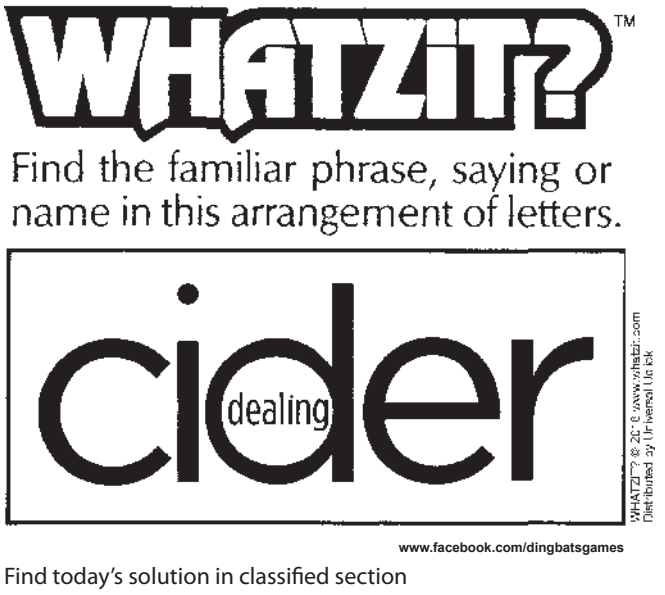
Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.



Find today's solution in classified section

LSG Sky Chefs

LSG SKY CHEFS is looking for the following positions:

- Cook
- Cook Helper
- Sanitation Worker
- Food Server/Kitchen Helper
- Quality Assurance Coordinator
- Customer Service/QA Clerk
- Counter Attendant
- Delivery Driver, Flight
- Assistant Operations Manager

Requirements: Superior Court and District/Federal Court Police Clearances, Health Certificate, and Food Handler's Certificate. Applications are available at the Main Office located on airport road, situated between American Red Cross Office and Historic Preservation Office. **Last day to submit application and requirements is Monday, February 29th, 2016.**

No phone calls please.

SECTION 8 VOUCHER ACCEPTED

NEW 2, 3, and 4 bedroom energy efficient apartments in Saipan. Lower utility costs up to 70% through solar panels and solar hot water.

NOW LEASING
Starting @ $599/mo.

OPEN HOUSE
MONDAY - FRIDAY • 9AM - 4PM
For pictures, amenities, and application information visit our website
www.ironwoodhousing.com
or call 670-233-4348. Applications are being accepted Monday - Friday, 8:30a.m. to 5:00p.m. and on Saturday, 9:00a.m. to 12:00p.m., at Ironwood Community Center on Middle Road, Gualo Rai.

MAR PAC Inc. EST. 1972

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY
Marianas Pacific Dist., Inc. is looking for highly motivated and experienced individuals to work as

Front Desk Clerk

- Good Oral and Written Communications Skills
- Computer literate with proficiency in Microsoft Word, Power Point, Excel and Outlook
- Must be well organized and professional
- Must be detail & deadline oriented
- Must have knowledge of clerical and administrative procedures and systems such as filing and record keeping
- Must be able to operate standard office equipment such as printers, fax and copier machines
- Must be able to work Evenings/Overtime if needed
- Must be 18 yrs of age or older

MarPac Dist., Inc offers competitive salaries commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Applications may be picked up and submitted at the MARPAC office located in Gualo Rai Village – Saipan. Deadline of submission is on March 1, 2016.

NO TELEPHONE CALLS PLEASE.

As condition of Employment, MARPAC requires proof of identity and eligibility to work in the CNMI. Police and Court Clearance required and pre-employment drug testing is mandatory.

MARPAC Dist., Inc. is an Equal Opportunity Employer

WHATZIT Solution: Insider dealing

USED GUNS WANTED
looking to buy functional used guns, good conditions and registered; mini-14, 22 caliber, 41OS.
Please call 483-5155

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
B & J Corporation dba: Dive Y2K
Scuba Diving Instructor
Qualifications: Over 15 years of experience in teaching scuba diving. Management skills a must. English, Korean and Chinese language fluency a must.
Interested applicants, send resume to: divequester@hotmail.com

Hong Ye Rental and Construction, Ltd.
P.O. Box 502997 Saipan, MP 96950
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
US Construction Workers
With 2 years experience, High School graduate.
Salary $6.55/hr.
If interested, submit resume to Hong Ye Hardware.

Island Pro Services
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
- (2) Commercial Cleaner: $6.05/hour
  Minimum of two years work related experience
- (2) General maintenance: $6.05/hour
  Two to five years experience in a related field.

For inquiries or resume submission, please email islandpro2015@gmail.com
Serious Inquiries Only Please

Alana'ia Polynesian Entertainment
NOW HIRING:
- **Polynesian Dancers Male & Female** – experience preferred, but not required.
- **Fire Knife Dancer** – Experience required, must have own knife.
- **Ukulele & Percussionists** – must have own ukulele.

Please call or text 788-7209 for audition times, serious inquiries only.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
Clinical Embryologist
Must have 2 years lab experience, plus experience in clinical embryology.
Salary Negotiable.
Call Karen at 322-0419

MAKE-A-WISH
Visit us at 865 S. Marine Dr.,
Orlean Pacific Plaza Ste. 104 Tamuning, Guam 96913
Tel: (671) 649-WISH • Fax: (671) 646-6293
Email: mawfguam@ite.net • www.wish.org
Office Hours: 8:30am-5:30pm, M-F daily
Saipan Tribune

www.saipantribune.com

Marianas Medical Center
is seeking for U.S. qualified workers for the following position:

(1) Radiology Technician
Associate's degree in Radiology from a school approved by the Commonwealth Board of Nurse Examiners (CBNE), with two (2) years of relevant work experience as a Radiology Technician. Must have the ability to take, review, evaluate and operate X-Ray, Ultrasound, Mammogram and Echocardiogram equipment. Must be licensed under Health Care Professions Licensing Board as a Radiology Technician in the CNMI. Must have the ability to work proficiently in a fast paced clinical environment.

Position closes at 5:00pm on Friday, March 4, 2016.
Applications are available at the Marianas Medical Center.
Applications should include a resume and evidence of education degree(s) and professional licenses claimed. Incomplete applications will not be considered. Testing may be required for some positions.
Marianas Medical Center is an equal opportunity employer.

NMPASI
NORTHERN MARIANAS PROTECTION & ADVOCACY SYSTEMS, INC.

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

POSITION TITLE: **LEGAL COUNSEL**
(PART-TIME/minimum of 20 hours per week)
(Plus Pro-Rated Benefits Package including Medical Insurance Cost-Share, 401(k) Employer Match, Paid Holidays, Paid Sick/Annual Leave)
PER ANNUM SALARY: $20,008.00 - $31,040.00
REPORTS TO: Program Manager
LOCATION: NMPASI Office – Saipan

OVERVIEW:
The Northern Marianas Protection & Advocacy Systems, Inc. (NMPASI), the state-designated agency for protection and advocacy services on behalf of individuals with disabilities, seeks to hire someone who is energetic and committed to the cause of insuring that individuals with disabilities are free from abuse, neglect and other forms of discrimination resulting from their disabilities.

GENERAL JOB DESCRIPTION:
This is an exempt professional position responsible for providing legal guidance on the day-to-day advocacy services for eligible clients with disabilities and for conducting community outreach/presentations regarding issues surrounding the needs of individuals with disabilities. The Legal Counsel is selected by a panel of NMPASI Management Staff, reports to the Program Manager and works under limited supervision within prescribed standards, policies and procedures with considerable latitude for independent action and decisions.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:
- ✔ Graduation from a U.S. accredited college or university with a Juris Doctorate degree;
- ✔ Admitted to Practice Law in the United States District Court of the Northern Mariana Island; the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, and Supreme Court of the Northern Mariana Islands; and
- ✔ Demonstrated interpersonal skills which allow employee to maintain productive working relationships with co-workers, clients and other working professionals.

HOW TO APPLY:
Interested applicants may pick up a complete job description and application forms at the NMPASI office located on Middle Road approximately 100 yards north of Gualo Rai traffic light intersection. Completed application packets must be submitted to the NMPASI Executive Director at the NMPASI Office. In order for application to be considered they must include (1) a Cover Letter, (2) a Resume, (3) Completed Application Forms and (4) evidence of CNMI Bar admission. Incomplete applications and/or application which do not demonstrate that the applicant meets minimum qualifications as listed above or do not meet the deadline for submittal will not be considered. For further information, please feel free to contact Mr. James Rayphand at (670) 235-7273/4 (voice) / 235-7275 (fax) or email at jrayphand@nmpasi.org. ***NMPASI is an EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER.***

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

JVA No. **16-006**

Opening Date: **Wednesday, February 17, 2016**
Closing Date: **Tuesday, March 01, 2016**

Engineering Technician

Duties: Under the direct supervision of the Chief Engineer or his/her designee. Provides technical support and assistance related to project management, safety, quality control and assurance; performs field investigations and construction inspections; performs field or easement verifications; monitors equipment and materials used; ensures adherence with plans, specifications and contractual compliance; and submits deficiencies for review and correction. Gathers data through observation and by reviewing relevant resources such as construction plans, blue prints, specifications, maps, technical drawings, property records, and/or GPS data. Enters, updates and verifies data in systems; prepares and maintains reports, notices, drawings, graphs, charts, correspondence, cost estimates and related engineering documents in accordance with standards. Plans and prioritizes schedule and routes for field inspections; researches existing project sites and explores potential construction sites; monitors rights of way and easements. Monitors and reviews equipment and supplies inventory; provides notification of resource or maintenance needs. Prepares finished drawings from sketches, notes, existing drawings for design, reports, and construction plans using AutoCAD, GIS, and related applications. Performs other duties of a similar nature and level as assigned. One position is primarily intended to focus on AUTOCAD & drafting. The second position is primarily intended to focus on construction inspection. Provides support and assistance with special engineering studies.

LOCATION(S): Water & Wastewater Engineering Division, **Saipan,** Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
SALARY: $20,826.00 per annum - $28,115.00 per annum.
CONTRACT: Not Contracted.
POSITION(S): Two (2)

Minimum Requirements: High School Diploma, GED, or ABE Program AS and 2 years of journey level experience in drafting, office and field engineering, or construction and inspection. Knowledge of: Applicable Federal, Commonwealth and local laws, codes, regulations and/or ordinances; Basic engineering and construction terminology, methods, practices, and techniques; Construction, sequencing and procedures for Water & Wastewater facilities; Mathematical concepts; Experience in Advanced AutoCAD Drafting for utility infrastructure. Applicable equipment, controls and systems of assigned area of responsibility; Modern office technology. AutoCAD programs; mathematics; basic surveying and engineering concepts. Skill in: Interpreting and applying applicable laws, codes, regulations and standards; Reading and interpreting plans, specifications, field notes, maps and related technical documentation; Performing engineering surveys, mapping and locating; Performing inspections and identifying issues in assigned area of responsibility; Performing mathematical calculations and estimating resources and costs; drafting plans from sketches Researching, troubleshooting and problem solving; Preparing technical reports, maps and related documents used in assigned area of responsibility; Applying safe work practices; Planning and prioritizing activities and routes; Utilizing a computer and relevant software applications; Utilizing communication and interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, and others to sufficiently exchange or convey information and to receive work direction. Applicants may be tested AND are subject to pre-employment drug testing.

Drop off your CUC Employment Application at the CUC Human Resource Office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan. Otherwise, you may drop it off at the Tinian and Rota Administration Office.

An Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer
P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950-1220 U.S.A.
Tel. Nos. (670) 235-7025 to 32 Fax (670) 235-5131

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

JVA No. **16-007**

Opening Date: **Wednesday, February 17, 2016**
Closing Date: **Tuesday, March 01, 2016**

Junior Engineer

Duties: Work under the direct supervision of the Chief Engineer or his/her designee. Designs sanitation facilities and oversees the completion of assigned tasks. Executes and coordinates portions of assigned projects and tasks; adhere to applicable specifications and standards. Manage assigned aspects of water and sewer facilities projects. Perform construction inspection. Support operations with technical assistance; collect, maintain, and organize operational data for engineering analysis. Maintain project files; prepare related correspondence. Prepare design calculations, engineering drawings, and sketches. Draft parts of a variety of engineering reports and correspondence. Assist with data collection, troubleshooting and equipment analysis; evaluate water and sewer system needs and perform engineering analysis. Perform research for design, efficiency improvement, and operations support. Perform other duties of a similar nature or level.

LOCATION(S): Water & Wastewater Divisions, **Saipan**, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
SALARY: $37,756.00- $40,000.00 per annum.
CONTRACT: Not Contracted.
POSITION(S): Two (2).

Minimum Requirements: Bachelor of Science Degree in Civil or Environmental Engineering. Bachelor of Science Degree in Mechanical Engineering is also acceptable if candidate has one year of experience engineering water and/or wastewater systems. Knowledge of: Engineering principles and practices; mathematical, pumping and hydraulics, and wastewater conveyance and treatment concepts. Knowledge of and ability to use AutoCAD is a plus. Knowledge of and skill with GIS is preferred but not required. Skill in: organizing, collecting information and evaluating data; preparing and presenting technical information for reports and/or documentation;; estimating construction costs; conducting studies. Able to: read and understand construction drawings; able to read and interpret specifications; use computers and related software applications; communicate, interact with co-workers, supervisor, and contractors to exchange or convey information and to receive work direction. Applicants may be tested AND are subject to pre-employment drug testing.

Drop off your CUC Employment Application at the CUC Human Resource Office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan. Otherwise, you may drop it off at the Tinian and Rota Administration Office.

An Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer
P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950-1220 U.S.A.
Tel. Nos. (670) 235-7025 to 32 Fax (670) 235-5131

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION, PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM
P.O. BOX 501370 CK, SAIPAN, MP 96950
HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICE

PROMOTIONAL & OPEN COMPETITIVE
EXAMINATION ANNOUCEMENT HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICE

It is the policy of the State Board of Education, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, that the Public School System Human Resources Office shall be applied and administered according to the principles of equal employment opportunity. Applications shall be evaluated regardless of age, race, gender, sexual orientation, religion, political affiliation or belief, marital status, disability, or national origin.

Applicants for this position must be eligible and authorized to work in the U.S., including the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

POSITION/TITLE: **JROTC ARMY INSTRUCTOR**
EXAMINATION ANNOUNCEMENT NO: PSS-2016-004
OPENING DATE: February 8, 2016 CLOSING DATE: Until Filled
SALARY: PL – Per Minimum Instructor Pay (MIP); Step(s): Per MIP; Salary: Per MIP
BENEFITS: Salary commensurate with qualifications and experience, plus excellent benefits (including Life Insurance, Retirement Benefits, and Paid Leave/Holidays).
LOCATION: **JROTC Program**

QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:

- Must be a retired non-commissioned officer under pay grade E-6 to E-9.
- Certified as an Army Instructor by U.S. Army Cadet Command.
- Must have favorable result of current background check.
- Have no personal habits or character traits that are questionable from a security or social standpoint (financial irresponsibility, violation of standard of conduct in accordance with AR 600-50).

POSITION/TITLE: **DIRECTOR OF ARMY INSTRUCTION**
EXAMINATION ANNOUNCEMENT NO.: PSS-2016-005
OPENING DATE: February 8, 2016 CLOSING DATE: Until Filled
SALARY: PAY LEVEL: UNGRADED STEP: UNGRADED - MIP (Minimum Instructor Pay)
BENEFITS: Salary commensurate with qualifications and experience, plus excellent benefits (including Life Insurance, Retirement Benefits, and Paid Leave/Holidays).
LOCATION: **PSS, JROTC PROGRAM**

QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:

- Be a retired field grade commissioned officer (Lieutenant Colonel or Colonel) with a minimum of a baccalaureate degree.
- As a matter of policy, personnel retired under Title 10, USC, CHAPTER 1223 (Reserve Service), are not eligible for employment in JROTC Program.
- Be of good moral character and have the mental ability, positive attitude, physical appearance and condition, and neatness required for favorable representation of the program and the Army in the school and civilian community.
- Demonstrate the professional ability to lead, motivate, and influence young men and women to learn and develop leadership, self-reliance and discipline, responsiveness to constituted authority, and attributes of good citizenship and patriotism.
- Have no record of conviction by court martial, no record of time lost-to-be-made-good under Title 10 USC, Section 972 and no record of civil convictions except for minor traffic offenses.
- Exceptions may be granted by the CG, USACC, using AR 601-210 as a guide.
- Have general knowledge of course subject matter and demonstrated instructional ability.
- Meet retention medical fitness standards of AR 40-501 and the initial Army procurement table of weight standards of AR 40-501.
- Possess sufficient medical, physical, and mental fitness, and be willing to perform, participate in, and supervise activities consistent with the conduct of the JROTC program.
- Not have been retired from active duty more than 5 years at the time of initial employment.
- Eligibility may be extended to 6 years for individuals meeting the provision of paragraph 4-9b of Cadet Command Regulation 145-2.

POSITION/TITLE: **SENIOR ARMY INSTRUCTOR**
EXAMINATION ANNOUNCEMENT NO: PSS-2016-007
OPENING DATE: February 8, 2016 CLOSING DATE: Until Filled SALARY: PAY LEVEL: UNGRADED STEP: UNGRADED - MIP (Minimum Instructor Pay)
BENEFITS: Salary commensurate with qualifications and experience, plus excellent benefits (including Life Insurance, Retirement Benefits, and Paid Leave/Holidays).
LOCATION: **JROTC PROGRAM**

QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:

- Commissioned Officer retired from the U.S. Army, with a Bachelors Degree or higher from a U.S. accredited college or university OR AA degree for Warrant Officer provided employee completes BA degree requirements no later than four (4) years after date of employment.
- Must be certified to Instruct by Cadet Command and have no record of civil conviction.
- Must meet all Instructor accession prerequisites IAW AR 145-2.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS:

INTERESTED APPLICANTS MAY OBTAIN AND SUBMIT COMPLETED APPLICATION FORMS TO THE PSS HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICE AT CNMI PSS CENTRAL OFFICE BUILDING, FIRST FLOOR, BWUGHOS STREET, SUSUPE.

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS MUST BE ATTACHED TO APPLICATION FORMS: (1) COPY OF DIPLOMA/DEGREE, (2) TRANSCRIPTS, (3) POLICE CLEARANCE (FROM PLACE OF RESIDENCE FOR PAST SIX MONTHS), (4) VERIFICATION OF EMPLOYMENT LETTER, (5) RESUME, AND (6) TEACHING CERTIFICATE (IF APPLICABLE).

COMPLETED APPLICATIONS AND REQUIRED DOCUMENTS MAY BE SUBMITTED TO THE HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICE OR MAILED TO: CNMI PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM, ATTN: HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICE, CNMI PSS CENTRAL OFFICE BUILDING, FIRST FLOOR, BWUGHOS STREET, SUSUPE, P.O. BOX 501370CK, SAIPAN, MP 96950, TEL. NOS. (670) 237-3052/79/59/31.

YOUR APPLICATION FORMS MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE PSS HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICE ON OR BEFORE THE CLOSING DATE OF THE POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT.

Curry, Thompson come through late in win vs Heat

AP
Golden State Warriors guard Klay Thompson (11) attempts a shot against Miami Heat center Hassan Whiteside during the first half of an NBA basketball game Wednesday, Feb. 24, 2016, in Miami.

MIAMI (AP)—The league's leading shot blocker was coming at him, and even that wasn't enough to bother Stephen Curry.

It was the biggest moment of the night, and the MVP delivered.

Curry connected on the go-ahead 3-pointer over the outstretched arm of Miami center Hassan Whiteside with 38 seconds left, and the Golden State Warriors beat the Miami Heat 118-112 on Wednesday night in a game that featured 13 lead changes in the fourth quarter alone.

"It was a huge test," Curry said. "On the road, any time you play against a playoff basketball team, it's going to be a tough task."

Curry finished with 42 points, and Klay Thompson scored 15 consecutive points for Golden State in the fourth on his way to a 33-point night.

Curry made a pair of free throws with 18.5 seconds left to get to the 40-point mark for the ninth time this season, and soon the Warriors walked off a winner for the 51st time in 56 games this season.

But Miami more than made them earn it.

"We had our opportunities," Heat coach Erik Spoelstra said. "Our guys played their butts off. ... This is for competitors only. This is competition at its finest."

Cavaliers 114, Hornets 103

In Cleveland, LeBron James and Kyrie Irving each scored 23 points and Cleveland beat Charlotte.

The Cavaliers bounced back from a home loss Monday to Detroit in which James tied a season low with 12 points.

Kemba Walker had 20 points for Charlotte, which had won four straight on the road and five straight overall.

Cleveland used a 40-point second quarter to build a 63-52 halftime lead and dominated the second half, pushing the lead to 24 points in the fourth quarter.

Bulls 109, Wizards 104

In Chicago, Taj Gibson and E'Twaun Moore each scored 17 points, Tony Snell added 16 and a thrown-together roster of Chicago backups beat Washington.

Three of the Bulls' top four scorers missed the game and the fourth was sick. Derrick Rose was a last-minute scratch with right hamstring tendinitis.

Pacers 108, Knicks 105

In Indianapolis, Paul George scored 25 of his 27 points in the second half to lead Indiana over New York.

Kristaps Porzingis missed a 3-point shot that would've given the Knicks the lead with 1.9 seconds remaining. Myles Turner then made one free throw at the other end.

Carmelo Anthony missed a 3-point attempt for the tie at the buzzer from the right wing.

Raptors 114, Timberwolves 105

In Toronto, DeMar DeRozan scored 31 points and Kyle Lowry added 21 as Toronto beat Minnesota for a franchise record-tying ninth straight home victory.

DeRozan had eight points in the final quarter while Lowry scored 12 as the Raptors (38-18) pulled away over the closing minutes to match a home winning streak set back in 1999.

Grizzlies 128, Lakers 119

In Memphis, Matt Barnes scored a season-high 25 points as the Grizzlies led from start to finish, beating Los Angeles in Kobe Bryant's final game in Memphis.

Six Grizzlies finished in double figures as Memphis finished with season highs in scoring and 3-pointers, going 13 of 27 from beyond the arc. Barnes was 5 of 9 on 3s and P.J. Hairston, who had 17 points, was 4 of 7.

Mike Conley scored 24 points and added eight assists as Memphis won its second straight and third in the last four.

Pistons 111, Sixers 91

In Auburn Hills, Tobias Harris led a balanced offense with 22 points and Andre Drummond had 18 rebounds as Detroit beat Philadelphia.

Playing in front of a tiny crowd because of a snowstorm in metro Detroit, the Pistons led by 16 points in the first quarter and were never threatened while winning their second straight after a five-game losing streak.

Thunder 116, Mavericks 103

In Dallas, Kevin Durant pulled up from about 40 feet and hit a buzzer-beating shot at halftime while Oklahoma City led the entire first half against Dallas.

When that wasn't enough for the Thunder to finish off a season sweep of the Mavericks, they used their inside guys to get control again.

Durant and Russell Westbrook scored 24 points apiece while Steven Adams and Enes Kanter took turns with dominant stretches in the second half of Oklahoma City's 116-103 victory Wednesday night.

Woods posts video to rebut rumors of his demise

PALM BEACH GARDENS, Fla. (AP)—Tiger Woods posted a video of him swinging a 9-iron in a golf simulator on Wednesday to shoot down rumors on social media that suggested his recovery from back surgeries had worsened to the point he could not even sit in a chair.

The 13-second video Woods posted on Twitter shows him dressed in shorts and golf shoes, and he takes a smooth swing on a golf simulator.

"Progressing nicely," Woods wrote.

The video (http://bit.ly/1oHi2If) had a time stamp of Wednesday.

If nothing else, it provided the first update on Woods since he spoke at the Hero World Challenge the first week of December. This was intended primarily, however, because of the social media storm that began over the weekend with a Twitter account called "Secret Tour Pro."

Mark Steinberg, Woods' agent at Excel Sports Management, released a statement Monday that said the rumors were "ridiculous and absolutely false."

"With everything that went on this weekend with Twitter exploding and the ridiculous and erroneous discussions - I don't even want to call it reporting - we were inundated with fans saying: 'Wow. How can this be true?' Clearly, it wasn't true," Steinberg said Wednesday.

"If I picked up the phone and called you and said he's doing some chipping and putting and making some swings up to a 9-iron - and that's what the club was - is that impactful or a visual evidence of that?" he said. "We felt that was a more appropriate way to go."

Woods first had a microdiscectomy a week before the 2014 Masters, which kept him out nearly three months. He took off another three months to get stronger, but then announced another back surgery in September, and a third one at the end of October.

He has not played since August. He has not won since August 2013.

The tweet Sunday from "Secret Tour Pro"—who claims to be a tour player, though it has never been verified—said that Woods' condition had worsened since Christmas and that he has to ride in a car with the seat full reclined. The tweet also said Woods has to lay down for the majority of the time and sitting in chair is no longer possible.

Robert Lusetich, who wrote a book about Woods' 2009 season after returning from knee surgery, tweeted similar information the next day that he attributed to his sources, and talked about it on a national radio show.

Steinberg could not say if Woods would have posted the video without the rumors.

"He does want to keep people in the loop to some degree," he said.

Missing from the update was anything beyond "progressing nicely." Woods said in December that he misses competing and wants to return, though he does not appear to be in any rush this time. He has said he tried to come back too early from the first back surgery.

"He's going to learn from the past," Steinberg said. "We don't want to put a timetable on it. He'll come back when he's ready."

Kubiak: There's no rush for Manning decision

COLORADO (AP)—Denver coach Gary Kubiak says he's been in contact with Peyton Manning but isn't pressuring him for a decision about his future. He also made it clear he wants Brock Osweiler back under center for the Broncos next season.

Fifth-year backup Osweiler went 5-2 when Manning was hurt last season and is set to become a free agent next month.

Osweiler led the Broncos to crucial comeback wins over New England and Cincinnati that helped set up Denver for its run to Super Bowl 50, where the Broncos beat the Carolina Panthers 24-10 thanks to a defense that produced four takeaways and seven sacks.

Manning started all of Denver's playoff games after winning his starting job back with a comeback against the Chargers in the regular season finale.

In comments at the league's annual scouting combine in Indianapolis on Wednesday, Kubiak echoed GM John Elway's stance that the Broncos will continue to give Manning all the time he needs to announce his plans.

It's widely expected, however, that Manning will forego the final season on his contract and retire a champion. He turns 40 next month and has been bothered by injuries each of the last two seasons.

"There is no hurry here," Kubiak said.

But there is a deadline. Manning's $19 million salary for 2016 would become guaranteed March 9, and the Broncos cannot afford to pay two quarterbacks starter's money. Manning would face the possibility of being cut by the Broncos if he decides against retiring.

Hamilton has injured knee, will start season on DL

SURPRISE, Ariz. (AP)— Texas Rangers slugger Josh Hamilton will start the season on the disabled list because of an injured left knee.

Rangers assistant general manager Thad Levine said the five-time All-Star, bothered by swelling in the knee, received a stem cell and platelet rich plasma injection Monday, when he was examined by Dr. James Andrews.

Hamilton, the 2010 AL MVP, will be on crutches for seven-to-10 days and is projected to need eight weeks of recovery time. Levine said Hamilton likely would start a minor league rehabilitation assignment in late April and the Rangers hope he will return to their lineup in early May.

"Obviously it's frustrating and disappointing," Hamilton said Wednesday. "As an athlete, you don't want to be pushed back and wait and have a drawn-out time period to get back. That stinks. At the same time, I really felt like it was something that needed to be done now."

Hamilton will be making his 11th trip to the disabled list.

"The reason we are giving him an eight-week program is so we don't cut any corners and give him a full spring training," Levine said.

AP

In this Friday, July 31, 2015 file photo, Texas Rangers' Josh Hamilton during an at bat against the San Francisco Giants in a baseball game in Arlington, Texas.

After reporting to spring training last week, Hamilton experienced pain caused by an inflamed capsule behind his left knee. He had surgery twice on the knee last year, in September and then after the season after returning for the end of the regular season and the playoffs.

Following the October operation, Hamilton didn't take batting practice again until Jan. 22, the day after a cortisone shot.

"This is something different, that I haven't tried yet," Hamilton said. "This was the next step to go. We've exhausted things. If this makes it 50 percent better, I'll be good to go. Everybody I've talked to who've said they had any kind of stem-cell stuff said they've had good results from them, so that's positive and encouraging. It will never be right, but I just want to get better. That's the simplistic way to put it. There's always that fear there that it might not work."

Hamilton, who turns 35 on May 1, never went to spring training last year with the Los Angeles Angels when he was coming off shoulder surgery and a self-reported relapse with alcohol and cocaine. An arbitrator ruled Major League Baseball could not discipline him for that.

He was traded back to Texas at the end of April and made his season debut May 25. Hamilton hit .253 with eight homers in 170 at-bats over 50 games for the Rangers last season.

Hamilton tore ligaments in his left thumb in the eighth game of the 2014 Angels' season and did not return until June 3. Injuries limited him to one game after Sept. 4 and he has appeared in just 139 games the past two seasons.

Candidates to play left in his absence include prospects Joey Gallo, Nomar Mazara and Lewis Brinson, plus Ryan Rua. Gallo, 22, is primarily a third baseman, but appeared in 19 games last year in the outfield. Mazara is 20 and Brinson 21.

Rua was the 2015 opening-day starter in left but sprained his right ankle and fractured a heel in the first game that required surgery and went on the 60-day DL.

"I feel we are in a good place with the guys we have in camp," Rangers manager Jeff Banister said. "How that all shakes out, we have 40 days until the end of it."

Texas also is looking outside the organization.

"We are very aware of the players who are out there on the free-agent market, and we're still having conversations with those guys, as we have been for weeks," Levine said

FIFA reduces bans for Blatter, Platini from 8 to 6 years

ZURICH (AP)—Sepp Blatter and Michel Platini had their bans from soccer reduced from eight years to six by FIFA's appeal body on Wednesday, two days before the sport's ruling body tries to turn the page on years of scandals by electing a new president.

Blatter and Platini were initially found guilty of wrongdoing by FIFA's independent ethics committee, which is led by a German judge, over a previously-secret 2011 financial transaction.

Platini, the UEFA president, said not being cleared was an "insulting decision, shameful and a denial of rights"—and announced he will appeal to the Court of Arbitration for Sport.

Blatter, as FIFA president, authorized a payment of 2 million Swiss francs ($2 million) to Platini which was found to be unethical and a conflict of interest.

But following hearings last week, an in-house appeal committee comprising members of federations voting in Friday's presidential election decided to relax the suspensions. The committee is headed by Larry Mussenden of Bermuda, who is currently campaigning to win a May vote to become president of CONCACAF and a FIFA vice president.

"The appeal committee considered that Mr. Platini's and Mr. Blatter's activities and the services they had rendered to FIFA, UEFA and football in general over the years should deserve appropriate recognition as a mitigating factor," FIFA said in a statement.

Blatter said in a statement that he was "deeply disappointed" with the verdict. Having hoped to be cleared in time to preside over the electoral congress on Friday, Blatter might have run out of time for an urgent CAS hearing.

Both Blatter and Platini have constantly denied wrongdoing and claimed they had a verbal deal for additional salary that former France great Platini would receive for working as Blatter's presidential adviser from 1999-2002.

Platini had been the leading candidate to succeed Blatter in FIFA's emergency election before the payment was revealed in September.

"The reasons given against me are baseless, trumped up and surreal, given the facts and explanations that I gave during the hearing of the appeals board," Platini said in a statement released through his legal team. "This decision is in reality a political decision taken by the FIFA administration."

AP

In this Friday, May 29, 2015 file photo, FIFA president Sepp Blatter is greeted by UEFA President Michel Platini, right, after Blatters re-election as president at the Hallenstadion in Zurich, Switzerland. The FIFA appeals committee has reduced Sepp Blatter, and Michel Platini's bans from 8 to 6 years, it was announced Wednesday, Feb. 24, 2016.

FISU volunteer program deadline next week

Northern Marianas Sports Association president Mike White is reminding college-age members federations that deadline for the submission of entries for this year's volunteer program in the World University Championships is on Monday, Feb. 29.

White is encouraging local federations to submit an application for the WUC, where the International University Sports Federation organizes 34 sporting event spread out throughout the year and hosted by different countries.

WUC assistant Julien Carrel, in an email, said this is the first time that FISU organized the volunteer program, which aims "to give opportunity to worldwide students to experience WUC from the inside being active on a key area of the organization as an international volunteer."

"May you have students of your country that may still be interested in volunteering for one of these WUCs, please forward them this information and ask them to send us their registration by the end of the month," Carrel added.

Interested volunteers will only shoulder the airfare going to the country where the WUC event will take place. The local organizing committee will provide accommodation and food. NMSA could assist with the transportation cost, which is subject to board approval.

The first WUC event is cross country in Casino, Italy on March 12 and will be followed by cycling in Tagaytay City, Philippines from March 23 to 27. FISU's world championships will stretch to December with the martial arts of sambo in Larnaca, Cyprus from Dec. 9 to 11.

FISU is based in Lausanne, Switzerland. Since 2004, it has organized 34 WUC sporting events that attracted thousands of student athletes from more than 150 countries around the world.

Archery, badminton, baseball, beach volleyball, bridge, chess, cross country, cycling, equestrian, flat water canoeing, floorball, futsal, golf, handball, field hockey, karate, match racing, ski orienteering, rowing, rugby 7s, sailing, sport shooting, softball, squash, taekwondo, triathlon, white water canoeing, waterskiing, weightlifting, woodball, wrestling, 3x3 basketball, American football, boxing, canoe sprint, netball, rowing, speed skating, and sport climbing, are FISU's WUC events.

For more information, email FISU at championships@fisu.net. ***(Jon Perez)***

3 MORE

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faster than his previous PBT of 35.35 seconds. In the 50m backstroke, the 10-year-old swimmer submitted 39.51 second to surpass his old PBT of 41.24 seconds, while his three other PBTs read at 39.38 seconds in the 50m breaststroke, 33 seconds in the 50m freestyle, and 2:56.74 in the 200m individual medley.

In the boys 13 to 14 age group, Sato got four PBTs and topped three events to get 41 points and defeat Tsunami Saipan's Mark Maestro and fellow SSC swimmer R.J. Pierce. Maestro gained 32 points, while Pierce logged 24.

Sato had his biggest drop in the 50m butterfly, as he timed in at field-best 1:27.67, more than 30 seconds faster than his old PBT of 1:57.44. In the 100m backstroke, Sato finished only second to Maestro (PBT of 1:21.11), but the former's 1:25.58 broke his previous mark of 1:32.32. The SSC's swimmers two other PBTs were in the 100m freestyle (from 1:08.59 to 1:07.89) and 200m IM (from 2:57.95 to 2:57.10). Sato missed a PBT in the 100m breaststroke, as he logged only 1:35.20 (his PBT is 1:33.82) and placed second to Maestro (1:35.13).

Meanwhile, Kento Akimaru won the all-SSC battle for first place in the boys 15 to 16 division. Kento got first place finishes in all five events to bag 45 points and down teammates Christian Villacrusis and David Boyer, who collected 35 and 30 points, respectively.

Kento also went 4-for-5 in PBTs. His first came in the 50m butterfly (from 1:13.38 to 1:06.29), while the other three were made in the 100m freestyle (from 1:00.00 to 59.75), 100m backstroke (1:15.18 to 1:14.60), and 200m IM (from 2:32.97 to 2:28.65). In the 100m breaststroke, he clocked in at 1:18.36, less than two seconds behind his PBT of 1:16.63.

Meanwhile, SSC coach Jacoby Winkfield commended his swimmers performance in last weekend's meet.

"SSC swimmers had very good swims this weekend. Every swimmer had at least one personal best and many swimmers had several PBTs. The coaching staff is very happy with their performance and the focus they have shown the last month. The pentathlon is a challenging but fun meet. Every swimmer must swim all four individual events as well as a 200 individual medley which can be daunting, but allows all swimmers to try events that they would not normally choose to do," Winkfield said.

CNMI

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recorded one goal apiece for Tan Holdings.

Over at the San Antonio Middle School Field, MP United, Kanoa, and Shirley's emerged victorious.

MP United whipped Paire FC, 14-1. Maaya Sato and Gillian Villagomez registered five goals each, Rei Sekiguchi and Maury Zon Tybaco chipped in two apiece in MP United's demolition of Paire, which got its lone goal from Patricia Surima.

Kanoa had a similar lopsided win over Tan Holdings, 14-0. Princess Alcantara anchored the victory, drilling six goals. Hannah Santos added three, Paulyn Joyce and Lysa Itaas contributed two each, and Toremy Diaz tallied one.

In the Shirley's-Matansa tiff, the former had four different players scoring for a 4-2 triumph over the latter. Katherine Magat, Katrina Costales, Jerlyn Castillo, and Therize Millare lit up the board for Shirley's, while Sunny Woo and Lyka Sally posted the two goals for Matansa.

FORMER

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managed to finish third behind Renata Bucher and Jacqui Slack.

"I love the course and yes my goal is to win it. But for sure I'll run with a big smile through the finish. I can't wait to be back," added Wasle, who will be in her sixth XTERRA Saipan stint.

This year, the Austrian will face Bucher anew, along with former Saipan pro Mieko Carey and Australia's Belinda Hadden. The four pros placed behind Slack last year with Wasle coming in at second and Carey, Bucher, and Hadden ranked third, fourth, and sixth. United Kingdom's Daz Parker finished fifth and will not be able to return this year along with Slack and men's four-time champion Ben Allen of Australia.

Meanwhile, without Allen, the men's division crown will be an open race. Three pros have so far registered for next month's XTERRA with long-time participant Takahiro Ogasawara of Japan leading the list. He will be up against fellow returnees Kaon Cho of Korea and the Philippines' Joseph Miller.

As of yesterday, 44 have signed up for XTERRA Saipan, while Tagaman Triathlon, which is set for March 5, has lured more than 100 participants. XTERRA and Tagaman are part of the Saipan Sportsfest.

Meanwhile, Triple J Saipan has joined the roster of sponsors of the Saipan Sportsfest, according to a press release sent to *Saipan Tribune* by race director Eric Tydingco.

"We are proud to announce that Triple J will be coming on board as Saipan Sportsfest sponsor once again," said Tydingco. "A huge thank you goes out to their team for their continued commitment to bringing additional exposure to the CNMI through these international athletic events."

"We are proud to be returning sponsor for this year's Saipan Sportsfest, being able to partner once again reinforces our commitment to our community and these dedicated athletes," said Triple J vice president of marketing and public relations Kristine Lujan. "Events like these not only showcase our beautiful island on a competitive and international level, but it's also a great event to be a part of and continues to grow every year."

AGAPE

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temporary as Haoyu Chen began to work for Agape in the third period and got help from his three teammates to turn the tables on the Knights, 27-22. Chen, who was scoreless in the first period, made 5 in the third and added 7 more in the final canto to lift Agape to its eighth win.

Chen outgunned the entire Knights in the final canto, as Mt. Carmel tallied only 4 points in the payoff period. Chen finished in double figures with his 16 points, while Dawei Cai added 10.

In yesterday's game against SDA, Chen and Cai still anchored the Torchbearers' offense, as they combined for 23 points. Chen registered 7 in the first period to give Agape a 13-6 advantage in the first quarter. He was without a point in the second frame, but Agape drew baskets from four different players to keep the upper hand at the break, 23-12.

A 2-point production from Agape off Lue Xiong's basket brought the Torchbearers' lead down to 6, 19-25, however Cai, who had only 2 points after three quarters, saved the best for last, knocking in 8 markers to keep their team's streak. Chen chipped in 6 in the final canto to lead all scorers with his 13.

Tuesday Game

Agape 41—Chen 16, Cai 10, Xiong 6, Lin 4, Xu 3, Guintu 2.

MCS 26 — Galauy 10, Ony 6, Salilin 4, Apolonio 2, Evangelista 2, San Nicolas 2.

Scoring by quarters: 6-6, 16-18, 27-22, 41-26.

CNMI youth teams receive donated training jersey

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Let's Go manager Ed Arriola, standing left, poses with members of the CNMI Boys U14 National Team's training pool and NMIFA staff Jersh Angeles, standing right, after the donation turnover ceremony last Monday at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Sun Palace owner Shirley Kim, standing left, joins members of the CNMI Girls U14 National Team's training pool and coaches Jacky Lee, standing second right, and Luam Khen Koo, standing right, for a group photo after the donation turnover ceremony last Monday at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Let's Go and Sun Palace Hotel donated training jersey to the CNMI youth national teams that will be competing in Asian Football Confederation-sanctioned tournaments later this year.

Sun Palace Hotel turned over two sets of training uniform to the CNMI Girls U14 National Team, while Let's Go did the same to the CNMI Boys U14 National Team in a brief ceremony last Monday at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.

"Let's Go is a very adventure oriented company that promotes healthy living and active lifestyle, so teaming up with these young and energetic players is a perfect partnership. We are proud to be their sponsors and we wish them luck," said Let's Go manager Ed Arriola, who turned over the training jersey to Northern Mariana Islands Football Association staff Jersh Angeles.

For Sun Palace Hotel's part, owner Shirley Kim said their company has been involved in various sports for the last four years and it will continue to do so, especially if it concerns the youth.

MP United, Paire win U12 games

Meanwhile, the 2016 NMIFA Youth Spring League had its Week 2 games in the co-ed U12 and girls U15 divisions last Saturday.

At the Hopwood Junior High School Field, MP United FC and Paire prevailed in their respective co-ed U12 matches.

Maui Johnson lifted Paire to a 4-3 victory over Kanoa after scoring a hat-trick. He put Paire on the board in the first half and then made all two goals in the second. Paire got its other goal in the first half off a Kanoa error. Kanoa, on the other hand, drew goals from John Mark Anastacio, Ronian Laxamana, and Lester Bata.

In the other co-ed U12 tiff at the Hopwood pitch, MP United defeated Tan Holdings, 5-3.

Rintaro Miyawaki led the victory, as he also logged a hat-trick. Akira Kadokura and Dylan Kim knocked in one goal apiece.

Kadokura scored in the 26th minute, while Miyawaki got his first goal a minute later. Miyawaki made it two in a row with his shot in the 38th minute and completed the hat-trick in the 52nd, while Kim hit the board in the 47th.

Anthony Bergancia, Kohtaro Goto, and Angelo Pulido

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Genesis Cup rosters out

The list of players from the nine participating teams in the 5th Genesis Cup Christian Churches Inter-Color Basketball League has been released.

Defending champion Caleb, which stunned Daniel in last year's finale, 91-88, will be bannered by defense specialist Yosh Gabaldon. He will be joined by Angel Hernaez, Greg Arriola, Efren Reyes Jr., Edison Castro, Denmark Lizardo, Chris Joson, Ernie Henzon, Rolly Castro, Gener Lansangan, Ramon Tombok, Russel Dequito, and Alex Gozon.

The runner-up Daniel will have lefty Marlo Ibanez, who will team up with Lawrence Borja, Jonathan Ibahan, Rommel Besmonte, Edgar Deang, Ronie Guevarra, Mike Calibo, Elvin Lopez, Orley Abiera, Rodel Morales, Mark Rabago, and Pastor Roger Abe.

Genesis Cup main organizer and Agape Christian School coach Noel Puno will anchor Joshua, which also has Jay Nunag, Alain Nunez, Benjie Cruz, Mark Puno, Rommel Valdellor, Arvin Daluyen, Dean Tenorio, Jaymark Paclibar, Donald De Luna, Aiwayne Sagun, Raul Acbo, Noel Ong, and Ambet Omampo.

Wingman Mike Cabanas leads Jeremiah and will join forces with Fred Fatialofa, Mark Sayas, Paul Bonquin, Mark Deala, Isagani Cortez, Cerillo Batingal, Mike Magofna, George Lizardo, Norman Vergara, , Rodel Lonzaga, Noel Conti, and Joel Buniag.

Meanwhile, the rosters of the other teams are as follows: Francis Estanislao, Nathan Huddleston, Mike Manalang, Willie Sacdalan, Gener Cabaobas, Allan David, Raymond Casuncad, Joseph Pasaylo, Jess Pacia, Edwin Montoya, Michael Ibanez, Ramsa Tenepere and Oliver Gragasin for Isaiah; Brad Demapan, Joseph Gatdula, Dennis Santos, Rey Darag, J.C. Libut, Art Borromeo, Allan Chavez, Brendon Perez, Kym Cheng, Rolando Balte, Frank Dalusonh, and Greg De Leon for Gideon;

Brian Reynolds, Don Teregeyo, Jae Yoon, Arvin Bacani, Jamin Dela Cruz, Ollan Cruz, Dan Toribio, Edwwi Bacunawa, Robert Marilla, Nathaniel Eugenio, Neng Yang, Vic Formales, and Job Samonte for Ezekiel; and Jerome Reyes, Jose Saures, Walter Brillo, Bernard Dela Crus, Mark Badal, Vandam Acosta, Mark Robles, Bernie Salinga, Jess Calub, Mark Cando, Louie Relorcasa, Vhoie Francia, and Darwin Gonzales for Samuel.

A series of tune-up games will be scheduled beginning this Saturday, while teams are waiting for their respective uniforms to be completed.

Meanwhile, league organizers will work on the rosters for the youth division, which is for players in the 13 to 18 age group. More than 50 players are entered in the youth division and they will be divided into five teams.

The Genesis Cup is expected to kick off next month. ***(Roselyn B. Monroyo)***

PIC tennis tourney resumes

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Action in the 16th PIC Tennis Championships resumes this weekend at the Pacific Islands Club courts with both adults and junior players competing in 10 events.

In the men's Open singles, eight players will be battling for the division championship. Moris Villanueva is among them and will duel Dong Min Lee today at 5pm. Other pairings in the 5pm matches today are Michael Ren vs Steven Goodwin, Raj Rai against Robbie Schorr, and Vincent Tudela over Jeff Race.

In the men's 4.0 singles, it will be Gary Ramsey opposite Donn Dunlop with the date of the match to be announced later. In the men's 3.0 singles, Nick Villalon will challenge Sean Lee today at 4pm for the right to face the winner in the J.R. Jacinto-Ji Min Woo tiff in Sunday's finale. Woo and Jacinto will square off tomorrow at 10:30am.

In the women's Open singles, there are only three entries in Carol Lee, Asia Raulerson, and Isabel Heras and they will play in a round-robin format. In the women's 3.0 singles, Sakiko Eda will meet Seon Hee Kim this Saturday for the first finals berth, while Erika Tuttle and Chiharu Sato will fight for the other finals ticket.

Meanwhile, in the adults doubles, the centerpiece event is the mixed Open division. Nine pairs will battle for the championship with the tandems of Heras and Race and Villanueva and Mikayla Lopez taking the Top 2 seeds.

Villanueva and Lopez will have their first game tomorrow against the winner of the Friday's match between the duos of Ken Song and Malika Miyawaki and Dunlop and Marivic Rosario. Also playing today are Tony Kim and Tania Tan who will go up against Lydia Tan and Ken Imaya. Then on Saturday, it will be Heras and Race versus Raulerson and Ryan Cho and father and daughter Dong Min and Carol Lee against Wendi Herring and Martin Jambor.

In the boys U16 doubles, the pairs of Goodwin and Tudela, Kim and Ren, and Schorr and Song will compete a round-robin play, while the boys U12 doubles has the same format and will feature the tandems of Andrew Chung and Min Gi Jung, Rintaro Miyawaki and Richard Steele, and Seung Jin Paik and Daniel Kang.

In the girls U12 doubles, there are only two pairs with Tuttle and Couge Kaga colliding against Maaya Sato and Erie Ortega. In the girls U16 doubles, three teams will vie for the championship. The list includes the duos of Raulerson and Maria Gregoire, Conatsu Kaga and Grace Choi, and Ami Tsukagoshi and Mimi Sakano.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Conatsu Kaga serves to Malika Miyawaki during the Week 1 action in the 16th PIC Tennis Championships at the Pacific Islands Club courts.

Curry, Thompson come through late in win vs Heat

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CNMI youth teams receive donated training jersey

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Former XTERRA champ returns

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Austria's Carina Wasle runs along Micro Beach during the 2014 XTERRA Saipan Championships which she won. Wasle will be back on island next month to aim for her second title.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Austria's Carina Wasle will be back on island for next month's 2016 XTERRA Saipan Championship.

Wasle confirmed her participation to the March 12 event last Tuesday, saying she is in good shape and is hoping to take her second win in XTERRA's Crown Jewel after ruling the off-road triathlon in 2014.

"I feel pretty good at the moment. I escaped the Austrian winter and went to South Africa to prepare for the upcoming season. I already raced XTERRA South Africa and came second behind world champion Flora Duffy," Wasle told *Saipan Tribune*.

Wasle completed XTERRA South Africa in 2:56:06 behind the 2:39:08 of Duffy with split times of 24:29, 1:32:33, and 55:00. XTERRA Saipan veteran Bradley Weiss of South Africa was the top overall finisher of the race, posting 2:30:42.

She is back in Austria and will continue to train in time for next month's XTERRA Saipan.

"I love Saipan. I hope everything works out on this challenging course, " said Wasle, who had her share of misfortunes in the treacherous XTERRA Saipan course.

The most memorable one was her freak bike crash in 2012 that almost prevented her from finishing the race. The wounded XTERRA warrior picked herself up and

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Agape nears regular season sweep

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Agape Christian School moved a win away from sweeping the regular season after earning two more victories in the middle school division of the 2015-2016 Coalition of Private School Sports Association Basketball League.

The Torchbearers bagged their eighth win last Tuesday following a 41-26 triumph over Mt. Carmel School at the Knights court in Chalan Kanoa, and then went up 9-0 yesterday after beating Seventh Day Adventist School, 39-27, in Chalan Kiya. Agape will go for a 10-game sweep next week when it plays Saipan International School in its last game in the double-round robin regular season.

Against Mt. Carmel, Agape played better in the second half to foil the host's bid for an upset. The Knights kept pace with the league-leading team in the first quarter, forcing a standoff, 6-6, before taking a shaky 18-16 lead after the second canto.

However, Mt. Carmel's hold to the top spot was just

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Agape Christian School's Haoyu Chen pulls up for a shot against a Saipan Community School defender during an earlier middle school game in the COPSSA league at the Agape court.

3 more SSC swimmers take top honors

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Jinnosuke Suzuki duplicated the feat of his brother Lennozuke, while his fellow Saipan Swim Club members Taiga Sato and Kento Akimaru were also victorious in last Saturday's 2016 SSC Pentathlon Meet held at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool.

Jinnosuke, whose older brother won in the boys 11 to 12 age group, ruled all five events in the boys 9 to 10 to collect 45 points and beat seven other swimmers for the top honors in his division. Jinnosuke prevailed against teammates Taiyo Akimaru (28 points) and Mark Jainier Chavez (3) and Tsunami Saipan's Hans Xu (26), Anthony Camacho Deleon Guerrero (24), Isaiah Aleksenko (23), Arman Rechucher (16), and Sean Gil (13).

Besides lording it over in his age group, the younger Suzuki also earned personal best times in all of his five events. In the 50m butterfly, Lennosuke clocked in at 33.59 seconds, nearly two seconds

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Kento Akimaru competes in the 100m breaststroke race in last Saturday's 2016 SSC Pentathlon Meet held at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool.